



Montgomery
County Council

Committee:
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney
Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected
Keywords: #IndigenousPeople’sDay

AGENDA ITEM #16
July 28, 2020
Public Hearin/Action

SUBJECT

Resolution in support of Indigenous People’s Day
Lead Sponsor: County Council

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Public Hearing followed by Action on Resolution – Council vote expected

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

- Resolution in support of Indigenous People’s Day

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- None

This report contains:

Resolution	©1
Councilmember Navarro Memorandum	©3

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: July 21, 2020
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

SUBJECT: Resolution in support of Indigenous People's Day.

Background

1. Columbus Day is observed as a Federal Holiday on the Second Monday in October.
2. In the 2010 Census, 58,657 individuals across Maryland identified themselves as being either wholly or partly of Native American descent, with 21,175 residing in the National Capital Area.
3. The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs recognizes the following tribes: the Accohannock Indian Tribe; the Assateague Peoples Tribe; the Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians; the Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians; the Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Sub-Tribes; the Piscataway Indian Nation; the Pocomoke Indian Nation; and the Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee Indians.
4. Given his well-documented list of crimes committed against Native People, the Council recognizes that the legacy of Christopher Columbus must be reassessed during this time of change in the County.
5. There has been a nationwide call to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on the Second Monday in October, in acknowledgement of the past and in commitment to creating a more inclusive future for our Native People. Over 70 jurisdictions and 7 states recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day, including the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, Washington, DC, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Portland, Oregon, Davenport, Iowa, Denver, Colorado, Bozeman, Montana, Dallas, Texas, Lincoln, Nebraska, East Lansing, Michigan, Phoenix, Arizona, Long Beach California, Olympia, Washington, Alexandria, Virginia, and Prince George's County, Maryland.
6. In October 2019, a bipartisan group of legislators in the House of Representatives introduced a resolution designating the Second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day, representing an important step in recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day at the Federal level.

7. All levels of government are increasingly working to address historic racial disparities, and it is important to elevate previously suppressed voices and to tell an accurate history of how government has interacted with all communities.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

1. Effective October 12, 2020, the County Council of Montgomery County, Maryland recognizes the Second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day and asks that the County Government update its calendars.
2. The County Council calls on the Maryland General Assembly, under the powers granted by the Constitution of the State of Maryland, to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day as an official State Holiday.
3. The County Council urges Montgomery County Public Schools to undergo a review of its curriculum to better incorporate the histories, narratives, and cultures of our country's Native People.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq., Clerk of the Council