

**Resolution No.:**

Adopt a resolution Declaring Every October 12 as “**Indigenous Peoples Day**” in Monterey County and Honoring the Indigenous Peoples of the Monterey Bay Region.

**WHEREAS**, The cultural and governmental contributions of the Indigenous Peoples of Monterey County have shaped the course of the county throughout history; and

**WHEREAS**, Monterey County Native Americans, including the Ohlone Esselen, Chalon, Rumsen, Salinan, Awaswas and Amah Mutsun Nations, and other Indigenous Peoples, have contributed and continue to contribute immeasurably to our County’s history, diversity, economy, and culture by distinguishing themselves as educators, entrepreneurs, military veterans, professionals and community leaders, to name a few, and have contributed to the cultural, economic and environmental traditions and history of the Monterey Bay Region; and

**WHEREAS**, California is home the largest population of Native Americans anywhere in the nation, currently at about 1.4 million residents per 2020 U.S. Census data; and

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Peoples Day is celebrated by tribes and communities across our nation, and is a day for educators to teach factual Indigenous history; and

**WHEREAS**, The County of Monterey recognizes that Indigenous Nations lived upon lands since time immemorial and values the progress our society has achieved through contributions of Indigenous Peoples in technology, business, law, medicine, education, the arts and the United States Armed Forces, to name just a few; and

**WHEREAS**, The County of Monterey understands that to help heal and close the wounds incurred throughout history, government entities should change policies and practices to reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, and uplift our county’s Indigenous roots, history and contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, As we reflect on our history, we must acknowledge the unfortunate chapters of violence, discrimination, sexual assault and deprivation that occurred, as well as the effects and injustices that continue; and

**WHEREAS**, The County of Monterey recognizes the unique history and historical knowledge of the local native Indigenous Peoples whose customs and traditions are respected and celebrated as part of the rich legacy throughout our area; and

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations’ sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

**WHEREAS**, As the County of Monterey again joins a growing number of local governments that have recognized Indigenous Peoples Day, creating and opportunity to promote appreciation, tolerance, understanding, friendship, among Indigenous Peoples and all county residents; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey proclaims every October 12 as “Indigenous Peoples Day” in Monterey County, honors the Indigenous Peoples of the Monterey Bay Region, including the Ohlone Esselen, Chalon, Rumsen, Salinan, Awaswas and Amah Mutsun Nations, and encourages all residents to participate in appropriate observances with activities that celebrate and commemorate Indigenous Peoples.