

Resolution No.:

WHEREAS, the land known today as Monterey County has been home to Indigenous peoples for thousands of years, including the Esselen Tribe, the Rumsen Ohlone, and the Salinan peoples, whose ancestral territories stretch from the rugged Big Sur coastline through the inland valleys and mountains; and

Whereas, Cari Herthel has exemplified visionary leadership, deep cultural knowledge, and an unwavering commitment to community education, tribal advocacy, and environmental stewardship, uplifting the voices and heritage of the Esselen Tribe and Indigenous peoples throughout Monterey County;

Whereas, Cari Herthel played a pivotal role in a historic event on January 31st at Asilomar State Beach: the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Esselen Tribe and California State Parks to co-steward eighteen ancestral parklands—an agreement rooted in generations of tribal wisdom, ecological knowledge, and sacred responsibility to the land;

Whereas, Cari Herthel has continued to guide the Esselen Tribe in the preservation of natural and cultural resources, advancement of public education, and the revival of traditional land management practices, including the naming of Ishxenta State Park and the honoring of historic Indigenous villages such as Achasta, Chalon, Echilat, Ensen, Excelen, Esslenajan, Ixchenta, Jojopan, Kuchun, Pachepas, Sargenta-Ruc, Soccoronda, and Tucutnut;

Whereas, Cari Herthel's efforts have not only strengthened tribal cultural continuity, but have also inspired intergenerational learning, civic respect, and collaborative action across Monterey County's diverse communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey hereby recognizes and commends **Cari Herthel** for their extraordinary leadership, advocacy, and profound contributions to cultural preservation, public education, and Indigenous empowerment.

Presented this [Insert Date]

By **Supervisor Kate Daniels**

Monterey County Board of Supervisors, District 5

"With respect for the past and hope for the future, your work ensures both remain strong and enduring."