



## A PROCLAMATION IN CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks honors and respects that public lands on which we steward park, recreation, and zoological experiences are the ancestral homelands and historic and culturally significant sites of the Indigenous People of the Puyallup and Nisqually tribes, and

**WHEREAS** Metro Parks values the contributions that Native American tribes have made and continue to make to the health of our planet and well-being of all people, especially through conservation, arts, and philosophy, and

**WHEREAS** in 2018 the City of Tacoma joined with more than 70 jurisdictions recognizing the second Monday in October as "Indigenous Peoples' Day" in support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples' ("Declaration"), which recognizes that "indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources," and Article 15 of the Declaration recognizes the right of Indigenous Peoples "to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information" and obliges Nation states to "take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society," and

**WHEREAS**, Metro Parks and the Puyallup Tribe have collaborated in the culturally significant Canoe Journey, and initiatives to benefit nature and wildlife such as the Red Wolf Woods exhibit at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium and the Eagle Passage habitat at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park; as well as efforts to enhance the lives of those in our community through the creation of the Eastside Community Center and scholarships provided to help enrich the lives of children and families through the Greater Metro Parks Foundation's Active Kids Fund, and

**WHEREAS**, Metro Parks and the Nisqually Indian Tribe have partnered to preserve wildlife and protect the natural environment through initiatives such as the Eagle Passage habitat and Rain Garden project at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park and to provide opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to learn, build skills and

make lifelong friends through the Greater Metro Parks Foundation's Specialized Recreation program fund, and

**WHEREAS**, Tacomans are honored that respected tribal elders have joined in community celebrations to offer sacred blessings for our public park lands and the people who use them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM REID, PRESIDENT**, on behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners, do hereby recognize and honor OCTOBER 12, 2020 as

**Indigenous Peoples' Day**

The foregoing proclamation was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regularly scheduled meeting held on October 12, 2020

ATTEST:

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Board President

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Board Clerk

