

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-130**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY WOODBURY DECLARING  
THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER BE KNOWN AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
AND CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS DAY IN THE CITY OF WOODBURY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Woodbury offers respect to the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation, recognizes the forced diaspora of the Delaware Tribe, and acknowledges that the City was built on portions of this Nation's land and territories of which the Lenape were stewards for thousands of years; and

**WHEREAS**, the City honors the Lenape in New Jersey and elsewhere for their practices of environmental sustainability and their understanding of the ways in which all elements are mutually interdependent; and honors also their cultural resilience throughout this nation's history; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents and elected leaders of the City of Woodbury strive for an open and supportive community that celebrates diversity and rejects systemic racism and oppression that targets all minority and indigenous peoples, including the Lenape; and

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations at the International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas sponsored by the United Nations, and the United Nations later issued its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007; and the City applauds the reaffirmation of tribal nation status to the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape and other indigenous nations in New Jersey by former State Attorney General Gurbir Grewal in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the act of officially recognizing indigenous peoples on the second Monday of October will encourage the development and dissemination of truthful representations and acknowledgements of wrongs committed by European colonists and their descendants, who, since their first occupations in the Americas in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, engaged in forced removals of indigenous peoples from their homelands and committed acts that nearly exterminated them; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Woodbury, New Jersey seeks to join a growing number of other states and communities across the United States that currently honor the lives of tribal peoples, including their cultures, traditions, and arts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Woodbury as follows:

- 1) The City of Woodbury affirms its support for the Woodbury Human Rights Commission to collaborate with community partners in developing educational opportunities to explore and celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the indigenous peoples in our region and beyond
- 2) The City of Woodbury encourages the Woodbury Public Schools to continue efforts to integrate the study of complex history, traditions, and arts of indigenous peoples into the school's curricula in order to revise distorted histories of "Indians" and applauds all other Woodbury schools that engage in similar curricula
- 3) The City of Woodbury encourages all businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day
- 4) The City of Woodbury firmly commits itself to continue its efforts to promote the wellbeing and growth of New Jersey's indigenous communities
- 5) The Mayor and Council declare the second Monday in October to be Indigenous Peoples and Christopher Columbus Day in the City of Woodbury, New Jersey

**ADOPTED**, at a meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Woodbury on **SEPTEMBER 22, 2021**

**CITY OF WOODBURY**

By:

  
Phil Hagerty, Council/President

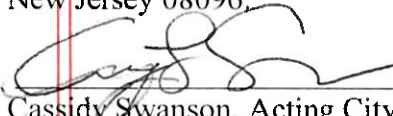
ATTEST:

  
Cassidy L. Swanson, City Clerk

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Councilwoman Carter	✓			
Councilman Fleming	✓			
Councilwoman Harwell			✓	
Councilman Merinuk	✓			
Councilwoman Miller	✓			
Councilman Miller	✓			
Councilwoman O' Connor	✓			
Councilwoman Parker				✓
Council President Hagerty	✓			
Mayor Sickel				

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Cassidy L. Swanson hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council, of the City of Woodbury, in the County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey at a meeting held on **September 22, 2021** at the Municipal Building, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, New Jersey 08096.

  
 Cassidy Swanson, Acting City Clerk

