

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, October 12, 1492 marks one of the most significant dates to all Indigenous people of the Americas – the beginning of the colonization and oppression of Indigenous people that forever changed their identity, cultures and achievements; and

WHEREAS, numerous cities and state governments now recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day in an effort to acknowledge past atrocities and to begin a process of healing and reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, the Gainesville area was originally inhabited by the Potano or Timucua people for at least one thousand years.

WHEREAS, Gainesville has an obligation to oppose systematic racism in the United States, Florida and our own city, which perpetuates high rates of poverty, income inequality, disproportionate health, education, and social outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville acknowledges and honors the first inhabitants of the land, and owes them thanks and respect for allowing us to use it for official and unofficial city business; 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, honoring the role of Columbus as a historical figure promotes values of intolerance and violence that are still common in today's world and opposed to the values of the citizens of Gainesville;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA: hereby recognizes the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Gainesville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City of Gainesville affirms its willingness to participate in annual Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrations and activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City of Gainesville strongly encourages Alachua County Public Schools to include the teaching of Indigenous Peoples' history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City of Gainesville encourages other businesses, organizations, and public institutions to also recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City of Gainesville firmly commits to continue its efforts to promote the wellbeing and growth of Gainesville's American Indian and Indigenous community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City of Gainesville will honor and commemorate the land upon which we occupy with a display for all to see and upon which to reflect.