

Legislative #

200414

RESOLUTION NO. 200414

A Resolution of the City of Gainesville, Florida, recognizing the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day; resolving to honor and promote the wellbeing and growth of Gainesville's American Indian and Indigenous community; and providing an immediate effective date.

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; and

WHEREAS, the City opposes systemic 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, the City acknowledges and honors the first inhabitants of the land in Gainesville, and gives thanks and respect for allowing its use for 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 the 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 contrary to the values of Gainesville residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA THAT:

Section 1. The City of Gainesville recognizes the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City and affirms its willingness to participate in annual Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrations and activities.

Section 2. The City of Gainesville encourages Alachua County Public Schools to include the teaching of Indigenous Peoples' history in its curriculum.

Section 3. The City of Gainesville encourages other businesses, organizations, and public institutions to also recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Section 4. The City of Gainesville commits to continue its efforts to promote the wellbeing and growth of Gainesville's American Indian and Indigenous community.

Section 5. The City of Gainesville will honor and commemorate the land we occupy with a display for all to see and upon which to reflect on Indigenous People.

Section 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of November, 2020.

Lauren Poe, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Omichele D. Gainey
Clerk of the Commission

Nicolle M. Shalley
City Attorney