

RESOLUTION in Support of Recognizing the **Second** Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples **Day**

WHEREAS, the City of Greenfield recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Greenfield recognizes that it is built upon the ancestral homelands and villages of the Indigenous Peoples of this region without whom the building of the City would not have been possible; to wit, and,

WHEREAS, the City of Greenfield wishes to uplift the indigenous roots and history of, and contributions to, our city and this country; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Greenfield has a responsibility to oppose the systemic racism towards Indigenous People in the United States which perpetuates their income, health, educational, and social inequality; and,

WHEREAS, despite the fact that the federal government guaranteed the health, safety, and welfare of tribal nations in exchange for over 450 million acres of tribal land, Native American and Alaska Native citizens experience higher disease rates, lower life expectancy rates, higher dropout rates, and higher poverty rates than any other racial or ethnic group in the country'; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Greenfield understands that in order to help close the equity gap, government entities, organizations, and other public institutions should change their policies and practices to better reflect and significantly improve the wellbeing of Native American people; and,

WHEREAS, the United States federal government, the State of Massachusetts, and the City of Greenfield recognize Columbus Day on the second Monday of October, in accordance with the federal holiday established in 1937;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Greenfield, Massachusetts

1. Hereby proclaims that the second Monday in October each year will be known as

Indigenous Peoples Day; and,

2. Celebrates and honors the foundational contributions of Indigenous People to the history of our City, the State of Massachusetts, and our country; and,

3. Encourages the City's schools and other institutions to use Indigenous Peoples Day as a point from which to, throughout the year, reflect upon and learn about the historical abuses and continuing struggles of indigenous nations, and to celebrate the magnificent foundations of the indigenous people of this land upon which our city, state, and country were built; and,

4. Encourages businesses and organizations **in** Greenfield to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day; and,

5. Shall continue to promote racial, economic, educational, health, and social equity and justice for all people and oppose discrimination towards Indigenous Peoples as it is perpetuated through inequities in income, health, and education.