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PROCLAMATION
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

OCTOBER 10, 2016

- WHEREAS,** Christopher Columbus, a man who is known to have “discovered” the Americas, came upon land that was already inhabited by Indigenous Peoples; and
- WHEREAS,** Columbus’ voyage to the Americas opened the door to crimes, including but not limited to the introduction of transatlantic slavery and genocidal acts against Indigenous People; and
- WHEREAS,** The Indigenous People were promised security and protection they were instead forcibly relocated and their land seized to allow for European settlements; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Corvallis and current day Benton County was historically inhabited by the Kalapuya people; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Corvallis recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions made in our community by Indigenous People and commits to ensure greater access and opportunity for continued contribution; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Corvallis has the opportunity, means and commitment to cultivate a community that honors and respects the diverse history of our community; and
- WHEREAS,** The State of Oregon does not formally recognize Columbus Day; and
- WHEREAS,** The idea of Indigenous Peoples’ Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** This day should be recognized for the original inhabitants of the Americas – Indigenous People; and
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Biff Traber, Mayor of Corvallis, Oregon, do hereby proclaim **Monday, October 10, 2016**, as **Indigenous Peoples’ Day** in the City and strongly encourage community members, schools, businesses, public and private organizations, and other community partners to join communities across America in recognizing and promoting the wellbeing and understanding of the contributions of our Indigenous communities.

Biff Traber, Mayor

Date

A Community That Honors Diversity