

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples of the State of Michigan enjoy and exhibit a rich, diverse culture and enduring spirit that continues to be present and celebrated to this day in the City of Westland, across Metro Detroit, and throughout the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Columbus Day represents only a part of the history of our country's and region's cultural evolution; and

WHEREAS, officially recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of October would help provide a more balanced representation of our country's and region's cultural history and constitute a small act of restitution for the hardships endured by Indigenous peoples since the onset of European colonization of the Americas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Westland is committed to promoting respect for and understanding of the region's Indigenous communities, their rich history, and their continuing contributions to contemporary society.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Westland, that: Each year the second Monday in October be recognized as both Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day to honor and respect the culture, heritage, and history of Indigenous Peoples of the United States of America, the State of Michigan, and the City of Westland.

I, Richard LeBlanc, City Clerk for the City of Westland, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution ([Resolution 2024-09-228](#)) adopted by the City Council for the City of Westland, County of Wayne, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the 16th day of September, 2024, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been available as required by said Act.



Richard LeBlanc
Westland City Clerk

Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day: October 14th, 2024 - City of Westland
A resolution declaring that the second Monday in October will be known as both Columbus
Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Westland.

WHEREAS, Columbus Day is observed as a federal holiday, established by order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1937, and is officially recognized by cities and states around the country on the second Monday of October; 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, Columbus Day provides an opportunity to reflect on the colonization of North America by Europeans and the development over the past 500-plus years of a unique, diverse, and complex civilization unlike that of other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, the European colonization of North America and actions of early settlers also led to the suppression, forced assimilation, enslavement, and genocide of Indigenous Peoples and their cultures; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples, including native tribes that makeup the Council of Three Fires Tribes (Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi,), Sauk Tribe, and Wyandot Tribe still encompass today what we know as the State of Michigan;

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan derives its name from the Algonquin word Michigama, meaning "great water"; and

WHEREAS, the Potawatomi, Ojibwe, Odawa indigenous tribes still inhabit the region that encompasses what we know as Metropolitan Detroit and the City of Westland; and

WHEREAS, the Great Sauk (Othâkîwa) Trail, originally created by migrating bison and mastodons, ran through a portion of Southeast Michigan, connecting native tribes from the Mississippi River to Detroit; and