

Indigenous Commission vs. Committee

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Indigenous Initiatives



Ya'at'eeh
Greetings
Mayor Evans
and
Council
Members

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- Land Acknowledgement
- Introduction



Commission or Committee?

Outline

- I. Indigenous Commission Background
- II. Commissions vs. Committees
- III. A Third Option
- IV. Pros and Cons
- V. Conclusion & Questions
- VI. Council Direction



Indigenous Commission Summary



Background

- Late 2017: City Manager's office brought up Indigenous Community Coalition
- 2018: Meetings with Mayor Evans and Indigenous Circle of Flagstaff (ICF) discussions on Indigenous Commission
- May 2020: Council recommended as priority item
- June 2020: Combined research efforts of City staff - present to Council with options to consider



Indigenous Commission Summary



Background Discussion

- Consideration for now and the future
 - What is best fit for City & Indigenous Community
 - Timeframe on Future Council Agenda
- Consistency on Community Interface & Engagement
 - Community accountability
 - City accountability



Commission vs. Committee

Commission

- Requires an ordinance
 - Participants must reside within city limits
- Subject to open-meeting laws
- Council appoints a Council liaison
- Direct involvement and authority in decision making

Committee

- No ordinance required
 - Participants do not need to reside within city limits
- Not subject to open-meeting laws
- Council participation is discretionary
- Recommendations made to on an unofficial basis



A Third Option



Indigenous Commission with an MOU

- Work with Coconino County Inter-Tribal Advisory Council (ITAC) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
 - Received legal input
- MOU will spell out involvement of members outside of City boundaries
- Act as ex-officio members



Pros & Cons

Indigenous Commission Considerations

- Commission allows official involvement in decision making.
- Commission requires formal Council involvement.
- Committee is more inclusive - outside of City boundaries
- Input is possible in a Committee, but unofficial.
- Work plan & community input can look similar with either structure



Conclusion and Questions

Indigenous Group

- Three Options
 - Commission
 - Committee
 - Commission with MOU
 - ITAC
- All options will involve
 - Community engagement
 - Council recommendations

Direction Needed

- Should the Indigenous group be structured as a committee, commission, or as a third option?

Thank you

