

# Office of Indigenous Initiatives

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# Ya'at'eeh Greetings Indigenous Commissioners

February 25, 2021



- Land Acknowledgement
- Introduction
- Background Summary

# Flagstaff Indigenous Peoples Day



## Report on Recommendations

from

Indigenous Community Forums

October 10, 2017





- I. Purpose
- II. Process
- III. Recommendations
- IV. Implementation

# I. Purpose

*A necessary and proper beginning by which the City of Flagstaff will work with Indigenous Peoples impacted by Flagstaff City policies to honor Indigenous histories, respect Indigenous contemporary holistic wellbeing, and work intentionally and diligently for the benefit of future generations of Indigenous Peoples.*



- Brief history
- Address challenges and identify solutions
- Implement policies & programs
- Build positive relationships
- Flagstaff Indigenous Peoples Day

## II. Process

Indigenous organized and led  
with City collaboration

*Adopting an implementation plan for initiatives  
identified through the public engagement with the  
lives of Native American community members and  
neighbors*



- Step One: Indigenous Community Forums
- Step Two: Compile and reports community recommendations
- Step Three: City of Flagstaff implements recommendations
- Step Four: Flagstaff Indigenous Peoples Day
- Step Five: Build and support structures for the ongoing relationship

# Select Highlights from the Six Forums

## 1. Nov. 16: Youth and Education

- 230 eager participants
- Foster respect, understanding, visibility

## 2. Nov. 30: Homelessness

- 80-100 participants; meals were served
- Meet practical challenges; raise awareness of resources

## 3. Feb. 8: Our Elders

- 120 participants, engaged and fed
- Community & cultural center to bring elders & youth together

## 4. Mar. 1: Economic Development

- 80-100 participants
- Quantify Native economic contribution to Flagstaff; help promote Native businesses

## 5. Apr. 5: Police & Criminal Justice

- 40-60 participants
- More cultural awareness; alternatives to incarceration (treatment)

## 6. May 3: Environmental Justice

- 60-80 participants
- Community education; protection of sacred places, including San Francisco Peaks

### III. Recommendations: Intergenerational, Intertribal, Holistic, Culturally appropriate and collaborative

*This is an unprecedented effort that could become a model for other cities that adjoin Native lands and serve significant Indigenous populations.*



1. Visibility
2. Economic Inclusion
3. Community Center
4. Education
5. Wellness
6. Housing
7. Transportation

## IV. Implementation

*Changes are systemic, culturally appropriate, transparent, and implemented through policy actions of the Flagstaff City Council*



Step Three: City of Flagstaff implements recommendations

**City to take the lead on implementing community recommendations**

- Revisit the resolution ...
- City experiences participating?
- Acceptance of recommendations?
- Commitment for collaboration and support beyond City?
- Action plan and next steps?
- Priority, Dedicated Resources?
- Timeline?



*We'd like to know...*

City experiences participating?

Questions from Council?

Questions from the community?

Question and Answer Session

*Special thanks to all who contributed to the process!*

# Work Plan

## Five Year Plan

Presented to City Council

May 26, 2020





# 1. Indigenous Community Cultural Center



## Year One and Two

- Develop a Vision Statement: Completed
- Identify a Location: Mogollon Parks Parcel
  - Indigenous community – Public Participation
  - Submit Proposal; Lock into Site
  - Plan B, work with City or partners – sites
- Administrative Structure
  - AZ Corp Comm; 501(c)(3)/Bylaws; Fiscal Agent
- Funding for Indigenous Community Cultural Center (ICCC)
  - Formulate funding streams



# 1. Indigenous Community Cultural Center



## Year Three – Five

- Administrative Structure
- Funding Sources
- Planning Events and Activities
  - Indigenous Community
  - General Public



# Background Summary

## Indigenous Commission

- Late 2017 City Manager's office brought up Indigenous Community Coalition
- 2018 Meetings with Mayor Evans and 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



# 2. Indigenous Commission

## Year One and Two

- Research in Progress, Best Fit for City & Indigenous Community
  - Present to City Council: Commission, Council, or Committee
  - Council Agenda: Discussion, Direction, and Approval
- Community Interface & Engagement
  - Community accountability
  - City accountability
- Purpose, Composition, and Launch



## 2. Indigenous Commission

### Year Three – Five

- Define Annual Goals
- Community Interface & Engagement – Ongoing
  - Community accountability
  - City accountability



# 3. Economic Inclusion and Impact

## Year One and Two

- Promote and Finance a Study to Quantify Indigenous Contribution to Flagstaff Economy
  - Identify funding source
- Utilize Results to Leverage Positive Outcomes
- Create/Refine Directory and Promote Indigenous Owned Businesses in Flagstaff
- Devise Feasibility Study for Public Artist Marketplace



# 3. Economic Inclusion and Impact

## Year Three – Five

- Create Workgroup from Feasibility Study Results
- Partner with Local and Regional Resources for Collaborative Efforts via Economic Inclusion Impact Study
- Continue to Build Funding Sources for Projects/Events



# 4. Visibility

## Year One and Two

- Build Visibility of Indigenous Presence and Contributions through:
  - Public Art, beginning stages
    - Beautification, Arts & Science efforts
  - Name or Replace Street and/or Place Names
  - Public Advertising of Events
  - Determine Support for a Flagstaff Pow Wow
    - Community Listening Sessions



# 4. Visibility

## Year Three – Five

- Continuation of the Established Goals
  - Public Art
  - Name or Replace Street and/or Place Names
  - Public Advertising of Events
  - Depending on Outcome of Community Support for a Flagstaff Pow Wow; Plans will be in place
  - Further Community Input and Determination of Events



# 5. Education

## Year One and Two

- Indigenous History, Culture, and Contributions:
- Work with FUSD and Charter Schools
  - Work has started, examples
- Staff Training – City Employees
  - Strengthen County Relationship and Community Partners
- Community Sharing and Training
  - Truth and Reconciliation Events
  - Native American Heritage Month
  - Indigenous Peoples Day



# 5. Education

## Year Three – Five

- Collect Data on Events and Training from Year One and Two
- Plan Next Steps - Based on data and successes
- Always Connect Indigenous Communities to the City of Flagstaff
  - Ex. storytelling, locality, better messaging
- Continue to Strengthen Relationships



# 6. Public Safety & Criminal Justice

## Year One and Two

- Police, Fire Departments, and Court Systems
- Thoughtful Review of Public Safety
  - Continued Community Conversations and Input  
Ex. Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission
  - Recruitment and Hiring
- Education and Training
  - Continue and Review/Update of Cultural Sensitivity Training
- Policy Review and Indigenous Community Input



# 6. Public Safety & Criminal Justice

## Year Three – Five

- Police, Fire Departments, and Court Systems:  
Continued Collaboration
- Thoughtful Implementation
  - Continued Community Conversations and Input  
Ex. Continued joint sessions with Tribal Government
- Education and Training
  - Continue and Review/Update of Cultural Sensitivity Training
- Policy Review and Indigenous Community Input



# 7. Wellness, 8. Housing, 9. Transportation



## Year Two

- Campaign to Identify Community-Based Efforts that Promote Healing for Inter-Generational Traumas; Seek Out Foundational Strengths
  - Protection of the Sacred, Ex. The Peaks; ecosystems
  - Partnerships/sources; Ex. gardens, elder-youth programs
- Address Needs for Affordable Housing
  - Assessments, families, students, and unsheltered relatives
- Solutions to Regional Transportation Deficits for Indigenous People for Work, Health, or Family Needs



# 7. Wellness, 8. Housing, 9. Transportation

## Year Three – Five

- Identify and Strengthen Collaborative Efforts
- Local and Regional Partnerships
- Identify Resources/Funding at Local, Tribal, State and National Levels and Bring to Flagstaff



# 10. Tribal Nation Meetings, 11. COVID-19



## Year One and Two

- Joints Meetings with Hopi, Hualapai, and Havasupai - Reschedule via City Council and CMO
  - Tribal Nations are appreciative of the meetings
- Other Tribal Nations
  - Schedule as City Re-opens
- City Instrumental – Keeping In Contact with Nations and Local Area
- Update to Council on Weekly Basis
- Instrumental in Connecting Organizations & Donations for Relief Efforts

Ahxe'hee  
Thank You

Any Questions?

