



Aggie Square Public Financing Authority Report

915 I Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

www.cityofsacramento.org

File ID: 2022-01273

June 21, 2022

Title: Official City of Sacramento Land Acknowledgement

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Mindy Cuppy, MMC, City Clerk, (916) 808-5442, mcuppy@cityofsacramento.org,
Office of the City Clerk

Presenter: None

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-Official City of Sacramento Land Acknowledgement

Description/Analysis

Issue Detail: On December 14, 2021, City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-0368 establishing an official City of Sacramento Land Acknowledgment to be read aloud at the beginning of every meeting of the Sacramento City Council and its subsidiary committees, boards, and bodies (i.e., City Council standing committees, City Council ad hoc committees, and City of Sacramento boards, commissions, and committees), as well as the Financing Authority, Housing Authority, Public Financing Authority, and Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency.

A land acknowledgment is a formal statement, a public recognition, of the Indigenous Peoples who have been dispossessed and displaced from their ancestral homelands and territories due to a variety of colonial and historical reasons. This statement acknowledges that an organization, a city, a park, or any other structure was built, and operates, on Indigenous Peoples' ancestral homelands.

As articulated by Mayor Steinberg and members of the Racial Equity Ad Hoc Committee at its October 6, 2021 meeting, it is important for the City of Sacramento to acknowledge, understand, and apologize for the City's role in the perpetuation of America's racial harm. In this vein, it is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought the City of Sacramento to this land, and to seek to understand our place within that history. Land Acknowledgements are not about placing blame, they are the first step towards building a more inclusive future that eliminates the erasure of Indigenous Peoples' voices, lives, and history. To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory we reside on.

During the first Racial Equity Ad Hoc Committee meeting on October 6, 2021, Councilmember Vang requested adopting a Land Acknowledgement at the beginning of every Racial Ad Hoc Committee meeting and suggested having Britta Guerrero, CEO of the Sacramento Native American Health Center (SNAHC), along with the Chairman of the Wilton Rancheria Tribe, Jesus Tarango, lead the way with a presentation on the importance of a Land Acknowledgement at the next Racial Equity Ad Hoc Committee meeting. On October 12, 2021, Britta Guerrero, and Chairman Tarango participated in a special presentation at City Council, recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day at the request of Councilmember Valenzuela. They returned to the ad hoc committee on October 26, 2021, for another presentation and dialogue on the development and adoption of a Land Acknowledgement.

Ensuring that a Land Acknowledgement is presented at official City meetings furthers council's stated commitment towards advancing racial equity by fostering an environment that is aware and actively working towards integrating Indigenous People and their history of local lands into decision-making processes. In doing so, the City will be acknowledging the oppressive systems Indigenous people have experienced and continue to experience and will bring us in solidarity to break down those barriers

Policy Considerations: Council has directed staff to include consideration of racial equity in future policy and budget decisions. Adopting a formal citywide policy to include a Land Acknowledgement statement at the beginning of all City Council, council standing committee, ad hoc committee, and board and commission meetings is a critical step forward for the City of Sacramento to acknowledge and honor the original Indigenous People of the land where City Hall and the City of Sacramento are located.

Economic Impacts: None.

Environmental Considerations: This action is not subject to CEQA because it is an administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and it relates to government fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. (CEQA Guidelines § 15378(a), (b)(2), (b)(4) and (b)(5)).

Sustainability: Not applicable.

Commission/Committee Action: On October 26, 2021, the Racial Equity Ad Hoc Committee passed a motion: 1) adopting a Land Acknowledgement at the beginning of every Racial Equity Ad Hoc Committee meeting; and 2) forwarding the presentation to the full City Council for consideration of the adoption of a Land Acknowledgement statement at the beginning of every meeting of the Sacramento City Council and its subsidiary committees, boards, and bodies (i.e., City Council standing committees, City Council ad hoc committees, and City of Sacramento boards, commissions, and committees), as well as the Financing Authority, Housing Authority, Public Financing Authority, and Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency.

Rationale for Recommendation: Adopting a policy for a Land Acknowledgement all meetings of the City Council, standing committees, ad hoc committees, boards, and commissions is in alignment with the City Council's stated commitment to advancing racial equity.

Financial Considerations: Not applicable.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not applicable.

**City of Sacramento
Land Acknowledgement**

*Adopted by City Council on December 14, 2021
Resolution No. 2021-0368*

Please rise for the opening acknowledgements in honor of
Sacramento's Indigenous People and Tribal Lands.

To the original people of this land.

The Nisenan people,

The Southern Maidu,

Valley and Plains Miwok,

Patwin Wintun peoples, and

the people of the Wilton Rancheria,

Sacramento's only Federally recognized Tribe.

May we acknowledge and honor the Native people
who came before us and still walk beside us today on these ancestral lands
by choosing to gather together today
in the active practice of acknowledgement and appreciation
for Sacramento's Indigenous People's history, contributions, and lives.

Thank you.