



# San Mateo County

A RESOLUTION OF the San Mateo County Youth Commission  
Recommending Recognizing the Second Monday of October as  
Indigenous Peoples' Day and Recognizing October 12<sup>th</sup> as  
Italian-American Heritage Day

**By: Immigrant Youth Committee of the San Mateo County Youth Commission**

Whereas, the San Mateo County Youth Commission recognizes the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe's aboriginal homeland of San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Cruz, Solano, San Joaquin, parts of Napa, and most of Santa Clara Counties.

Whereas, the San Mateo County Youth Commission acknowledges the suffering the Indigenous People and Ohlone Tribe faced in the Mission Era.

Whereas, the Presidential proclamation of 2015 that proclaimed November 27th, 2015 Native American Heritage Month is recognized.

Whereas, the San Mateo County Youth Commission recognizes that the Ohlone Tribe was Federally Acknowledged as the Verona Band by the U.S. Government in 1906.

Whereas, the San Mateo County Youth Commission recognizes that San Francisco, Los Angeles, Santa Cruz Counties adopted Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Whereas, the San Mateo County Youth Commission recognizes that the cities of Los Angeles, Berkeley, Santa Cruz, San Fernando, Burbank, Long Beach, San Luis Obispo, and Watsonville have recognized Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Whereas, the San Mateo County Youth Commission acknowledges the contributions of Italian-Americans to the Americas.



**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommends San Mateo County recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday in October**

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommends San Mateo County adds the celebration of Italian-American Heritage Day on October 12th to commemorate Italian-Americans contributions and achievements to America.

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommends San Mateo County recognizes Indigenous Peoples' Day and Italian-American Heritage Day no later than 2020 calendar year or sooner.

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommends San Mateo County recognizes Indigenous Peoples' Day and Italian-American Heritage Day in each calendar, agenda, and schedule.

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommends San Mateo County notifies the School Districts that Indigenous Peoples' Day has been set into place as the official county holiday in place of Columbus Day and October 12th as the official Italian-American Heritage Day.

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommends San Mateo County shall continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of San Mateo County Native American and Indigenous communities.

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Immigrant Youth Committee on the behalf of the San Mateo County Youth Commission

**Subject:** Memo and resolution adopted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommending San Mateo County replace Columbus Day with “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” and “Italian-American Heritage Day” in all San Mateo County calendars and documents.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing:

- A. Changing the second Monday of October to Indigenous Peoples’ Day as the official County holiday.
- B. The addition of Italian-American Heritage Day on the second Monday of October to commemorate Italian-Americans contributions and achievements to the United States of America.
- C. Recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ Day and Italian-American Heritage Day in each County calendar, agenda, schedule.

**BACKGROUND:**

Indigenous Peoples’ Day is a movement and an annual celebration throughout different parts of the United States to honor and commemorate the contributions that the Indigenous People contributed to the cultures of the Americas. Indigenous Peoples’ Day is frequently celebrated and recognized on the second Monday in October. Indigenous Peoples’ Day, was first adopted by Berkeley, California on Oct. 22, 1992, and acknowledges Native Americans and their contributions as the original inhabitants of America. Throughout California, there are 55 cities that celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day. There are 4 states officially that recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day; Minnesota, Vermont, Alaska, and South Dakota.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Youth Commission took up the issue of Indigenous Peoples’ Day and is recommending that San Mateo County recognize it. This memo demonstrates the County of San Mateo’s commitment to recognizing Indigenous Peoples’ history and culture. Because Columbus Day remains an official Federal and State holiday and is celebrated by many as a symbol of Italian-American history and culture, the County will recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day, while continuing to recognize Italian-American Heritage Day on the second Monday in October. The Immigrant Youth Committee and the Youth Commission carefully considered the recommendations made in this memo and containing documents; it was a point of discussion at multiple meetings for two terms with public comment throughout. The voices of our fellow commissioners as well as intensive outside research and input were the deciding factor in our resulting action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None.

