



AGENCY: City Council
MEETING DATE: July 11, 2023
DEPARTMENT: Administration
PRESENTED BY: P.Ducey/C. Munoz
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AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TITLE:

Receive Presentation Regarding the Intent and Goals of the Ad Hoc Cultural Committee

ISSUE:

In June 2020, the City Council created a Citizen's Commission to develop the best path forward to explore a name change for the City of Fort Bragg as well as ways to address the deeper systemic issue of racism.

ANALYSIS:

The Commission met for over 18 months, completing over 60 hours of meetings. In addition, they solicited community feedback in a bilingual questionnaire that received 1,649 responses. The Commission's final report was reviewed by City Council on January 24, 2022. The Citizens Commission presented their recommendations out of the unifying ideas they had. City Council supported all Commission recommendations at that meeting.

Citizens Commission Recommendations

1. Create a City policy to prioritize Land Back to local coastal tribes
2. Formalize an official agreement to work with local coastal tribes similar to the agreement made in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in recognition of the tribe's sovereignty and continued stewardship of this land
3. Support the creation of a cultural center
4. Appoint a local history working group
5. Appoint a City Council Ad Hoc Committee to facilitate discussion with the school district and local tribes to support the schools in presenting a more complete and inclusive history of the local area
6. Support an outdoor event, a North Coast Community Day to encourage the local arts, sciences, and culture/economy and to showcase our diverse community and encourage a robust economy.

In January 2023, Mayor Norvell created an Ad Hoc Cultural Committee and appointed Councilmembers Jason Godeke and Marcia Rafanan as Committee members. The goal of the Ad Hoc Committee was to move forward with strategic planning efforts, including funding to complete the work initiated by the Citizen's Committee.

The PowerPoint presentation will outline the initial steps that the Committee has identified to meet the intent of the Citizen's Commission recommendations. This will include:

- Pomo Land Acknowledgement and Commitments
- Existing and Proposed Signage in Fort Bragg
- Pomo Education Center
- Gathering Material for the Learning Center and Native American Studies Model Curriculum

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive presentation and provide staff with direction regarding next steps.