



A JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2024, AS "NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" IN THE CITY OF GAHANNA

WHEREAS, *Indigenous peoples demonstrate remarkable strength and resilience, preserving rich cultures and traditions that shape our nation and community throughout history and today; and*

WHEREAS, *Native communities maintain thriving societies, steward lands, and contribute greatly to the scientific, cultural, and environmental advancements that benefit us all; and*

WHEREAS, *Despite historic injustices, including forced relocation and the suppression of their languages and traditions, Indigenous peoples continue to flourish, playing key roles in public service, innovation, and environmental stewardship; and*

WHEREAS, *Gahanna's name, derived from the Wyandot word meaning "three into one," honors the confluence of three waterways—Alum Creek, Blacklick Creek, and Big Walnut Creek—that merge just south of the city, symbolizing unity and strength; and*

WHEREAS, *The earliest known name for the Big Walnut Creek was "Big Belly," named for a Native American Chief. Eventually, the name was changed to the Gahanna River and ultimately the Big Walnut Creek; and*

WHEREAS, *As we commemorate the 175th anniversary of the founding of Gahanna in 2024, the City of Gahanna recognizes the significant role of Indigenous peoples in our shared history and affirms its connection to the Native American heritage embedded in the city's origins; and*

WHEREAS, *Gahanna recognizes the importance of respecting Tribal sovereignty and self-determination and honors the foundational role of Indigenous peoples in our shared history and future; and*

WHEREAS, *November is nationally recognized as Native American Heritage Month, offering a dedicated time to celebrate the achievements, cultures, and enduring legacy of Indigenous peoples.*

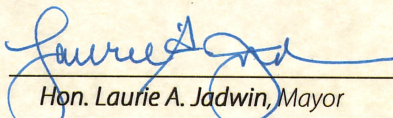
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL AND PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO:

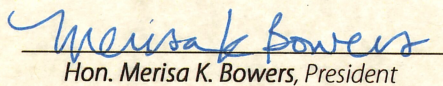
Section 1. *The City designates November 2024 as "Native American Heritage Month" in the City of Gahanna.*

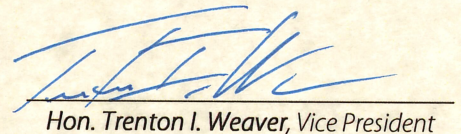
Section 2. *The City encourages schools, businesses, and organizations to learn about and engage in activities that recognize the heritage and contributions of Indigenous peoples.*

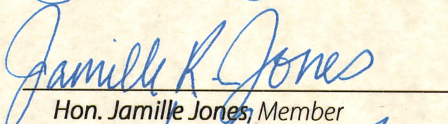
Section 3. *The City will work to foster partnerships with Native communities to promote cultural exchange and understanding.*

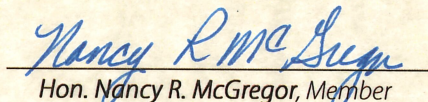
Section 4. *This joint resolution and proclamation shall be in full effect at the earliest period allowed by law.*

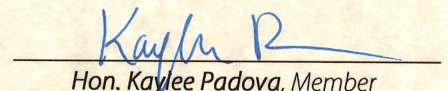

Hon. Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor

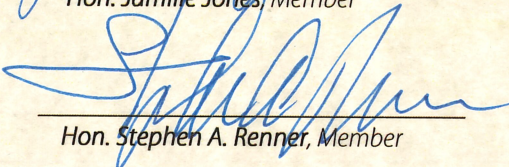

Hon. Merisa K. Bowers, President

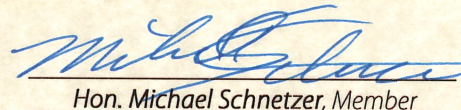

Hon. Trenton I. Weaver, Vice President


Hon. Jamille Jones, Member


Hon. Nancy R. McGregor, Member


Hon. Kaylee Padova, Member

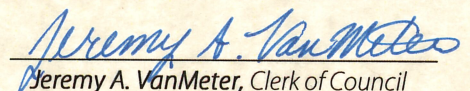

Hon. Stephen A. Renner, Member


Hon. Michael Schnetzer, Member

Certified as passed this 4th day of November, 2024.
Resolution 0039-2024



Attest:


Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council