

Resolution on Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgment

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San Francisco Elections Commission

September 2022

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that the Ramaytush Ohlone are the original peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that the area comprising the City and County of San Francisco was originally inhabited by the Yelamu, an independent tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone has actively worked to research, expand public awareness of, and preserve Ohlone history and culture; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that the City and County of San Francisco was founded on unceded territory, and continues to participate in the erasure and exclusion of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples have survived systematic disenfranchisement and other atrocities driven by local, federal, and global governments; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples are not a mythical population of the past, but an integral and active community in the present San Francisco Bay Area region and beyond, whose ongoing exclusion and invisibility in the electorate threaten the greater Native American community's inclusion and respect in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, To acknowledge the truth of a land's history is a demonstration of honor for the contributions and sacrifices of the ancestors and people that inhabited and cared for this land before us; and

WHEREAS, The American Indian Cultural District, in partnership with the Ramaytush Ohlone Association, submitted a list of demands in 2020 to the San Francisco Mayor, Human Rights Commission, and Board of Supervisors, including a demand for the City to "Honor the First People of San Francisco, The Ramaytush Ohlone, by recognizing them and their ancestral homelands prior to all City meetings;" therefore be it

RESOLVED, From this date forward, at the beginning of each Elections Commission meeting, a member of the Commission will state the following land acknowledgment, which was written in collaboration with and approved by the Association of the Ramaytush Ohlone:

The San Francisco Elections Commission acknowledges that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Elections Commission's land acknowledgement is the first step in a broader effort to honor the land, culture, and contributions of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.