

PROCLAMATION

MISSOULA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MISSOULA, MONTANA

WHEREAS, Missoula County is located within the homelands of the Confederated Salish, Upper Kalispel and Kootenai Tribes; and

WHEREAS, in October 1891, the United States government forcefully removed the Salish people from their Bitterroot homeland and further imposed European concepts of land ownership by authorizing the appropriation of land within the boundaries of sovereign nations through the purchase by non-native people; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the ongoing impacts of systemic racism and intergenerational trauma that has resulted from historical injustice directed toward Indigenous populations; and

WHEREAS, Missoula County and the City of Missoula continue to strengthen relationships with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, enhancing trust and understanding and developing policies and practices that will aid in closing equity gaps, and honor Indigenous roots and history in our communities; and

WHEREAS, American Indian Heritage Month was first proposed in 1990 by U.S. House Joint Resolution 577 and later changed to “Native American Heritage Month” in 1991 by George H.W. Bush; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation serves as a reminder of Missoula County and the City of Missoula's commitment to honor its relationship with sovereign nations and Indigenous Peoples and to uphold trust treaty responsibilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED we, Missoula County and the City of Missoula, do hereby proclaim November as:

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

to value the history and rich cultures of Indigenous Peoples as we recognize their pride, resilience, determination and patriotism for this country.

DATED THIS 7TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024

CITY OF MISSOULA



Andrea Davis, Mayor

COUNTY OF MISSOULA



David Strohmaier, Chair

Josh Slotnick, Commissioner



Juanita Vero, Commissioner