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Proclaiming November as Native American Heritage Month in San Leandro

**Native American Heritage Month**

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans have inhabited the Bay Area region for many millennia, and have contributed significantly to the growth, prosperity, and identity of our country, from before its inception to the present day; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 United States Census reports that 9.7 million people throughout the United States identify as American Indian and Alaska Native and, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there are currently 574 federally recognized Native Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, California is home to 109 federally recognized tribes and a number of other non-and previously federally recognized tribes such as the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area who are actively petitioning for federal recognition and reaffirmation; and

**WHEREAS**, National Native American Heritage Month serves to recognize Native American cultures and educate the public about their heritage, history, art, and service in the United States Armed Forces, which the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe has done in all the major wars since World War I; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of San Leandro recognizes that the history of native peoples in this country unfortunately includes colonization, forced assimilation, ill treatment, and many other disreputable practices that negatively impacted indigenous communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on this occasion, the City of San Leandro celebrates the incredible resilience of the Native Americans,

their unique cultures, languages, and traditions, and their continued contributions to our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pauline Russo Cutter, Mayor of the City of San Leandro, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2022 as “**Native American Heritage Month**” in San Leandro and encourage all residents to engage with the history, cultures, traditions, and contributions of the Native Americans in our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Leandro to be affixed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.