RECOGNITION OF NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
November 13, 2019

WHEREAS, *the history of Native American Heritage Month goes back to 1915 when Red Fox James, a Native American of the Blackfoot nation took it upon himself to ride a horse from state to state seeking approval from 24 separate state governments for a day to honor the "American Indian"; and*

WHEREAS, *long before European explorers set foot on the North American continent, this great land was cultivated and cherished by generations of American Indians; and*

WHEREAS, *California has the second largest Native American population in the United States; and*

WHEREAS, *it wasn't until 1990 when November was first designated as National American Indian Heritage Month and since then, we have celebrated the legacy of the first people to call this land home; and*

WHEREAS, *these Native people have possessed a wealth of acquired wisdom and skills in hunting, tracking, and farming – knowledge and skills that would one day prove to be invaluable to traders and settlers from Europe; and*

WHEREAS, *young and old alike know the story of Sacajawea, the Shoshone woman who helped to guide Lewis and Clark on their historic expedition and, in so doing helped to open the door to the Great West; and*

WHEREAS, *this month, we especially recognize the immeasurable contribution of American Indians and Alaska Natives who serve in the Armed Forces at five times the national average; and*

WHEREAS, *the American Indian heritage is a rich array of many different cultural legacies—each as unique as the tribes themselves.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED *that Mayor Karyl Matsumoto and the City Council of the City of South San Francisco remain committed to preserving and protecting Native American cultures, languages, and history, while ensuring prosperity and opportunity for all Native Americans.*

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Karyl Matsumoto, Mayor

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Richard Garbarino, Vice Mayor

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Mark Addiego, Council Member

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Mark Nagales, Council Member

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Buenaflor Nicolas, Council Member

Dated: November 13, 2019