

Harada, Patricia

Subject: FW: Strong Support of Land Acknowledgement

From: Mona Recalde <mona.recalde@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 11:20 AM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Strong Support of Land Acknowledgement

Good morning,

I am writing in **strong support** of the current land acknowledgement adopted by the El Segundo Arts and Culture Committee:

"We acknowledge that we are holding this meeting on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Tongva. We recognize the Tongva people as the traditional caretakers of Tovaangar (Los Angeles Basin, So Channel Islands). We also acknowledge that Los Angeles County is the home to the largest Indigenous Populations in the US."

This acknowledgement best reflects the objective and accepted historical record - The land under the Los Angeles area, the dirt under our feet, holds our history, our ancestors, our stories, and our hearts. Despite the best efforts of settlers, missionaries, and politicians in early California, we (the Tongva people) survived. We are rebuilding our identity and traditions, and we appreciate this ceremonial acknowledgement of our continued existence and dignity.

As a resident of Los Angeles County, with family records that go back to 1771 at the San Gabriel Mission, I am asking you to recognize our history.

Keep the acknowledgement. We are still here, and we see you. If you are interested in our tribe educating the City or officials about the history you represent, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Mona Morales Recalde
Enrolled Tribal Member- San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians Gabrieleno/Tongva
www.gabrieleno-nsn.us
Instagram: @sgbmigt

Harada, Patricia

Subject: FW: El Segundo Arts and Culture Committee Land Acknowledgement

From: Joel Garcia <joel@meztliprojects.org>

Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 11:06 AM

To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>

Subject: El Segundo Arts and Culture Committee Land Acknowledgement

Dear El Segundo City Council,

As cities and states look to account for and reconcile with past and current harms towards Indigenous communities as well as build partnerships with them, it is important to incorporate in our day to day work the worldviews and perspectives of Indigenous Peoples especially the First Peoples of the places we live in.

The idea that a Land Acknowledgement "may expose the City of El Segundo to potential litigation from the Tongva people" as stated by Assistant City Attorney Joaquin Vazquez is part of the increase in fear mongering we have seen inflamed by individuals like Donald Trump. If a land acknowledgment had the power to trigger litigation we would have precedent for this and I challenge Assistant City Attorney Joaquin Vazquez to provide proof of a precedent within California where a land acknowledgment resulted in litigation.

Additionally, to swap one city's land acknowledgment to read as another city's statement is lazy, fear-based and completely in contrast to what these statements are meant to do. These statements are meant to bring people together and build understanding. Assistant City Attorney Joaquin Vazquez suggestions if anything adds more fractures to already frail relationships between cities and First Peoples.

I encourage the City Council to keep the El Segundo Arts and Culture Committee Land Acknowledgement and expand that statement across all other Commissions, Committees, and Boards (CCBs) agendas to achieve the consistency Assistant City Attorney Joaquin Vazquez desires.

Joel Garcia
Director
Meztli Projects (an LA County arts and culture organization)

Harada, Patricia

Subject: FW: Comment/Letter of support.

From: Kimberly Johnson <kimcgu@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:49 AM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Comment/Letter of support.

Good morning,

I am writing in **strong support** of the current land acknowledgement adopted by the El Segundo Arts and Culture Committee:

*"We acknowledge that we are holding this meeting on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of **the Tongva**. We recognize the Tongva people as the traditional caretakers of **Tovaangar** (Los Angeles Basin, So Channel Islands). We also acknowledge that Los Angeles County is the home to the largest Indigenous Populations in the US."*

This acknowledgement best reflects the objective and accepted historical record - The land under the Los Angeles area, the dirt under our feet, holds our history, our ancestors, our stories, and our hearts. Despite the best efforts of settlers, missionaries, and politicians in early California, we (the Tongva people) survived. We are rebuilding our identity and traditions, and we appreciate this ceremonial acknowledgement of our continued existence and dignity.

As a resident of Los Angeles County, with family records that go back to 1771 at the San Gabriel Mission, I am asking you to recognize our history.
Keep the acknowledgement. We are still here, and we see you.

Sincerely,

--
Kimberly Morales Johnson
[Gabrieleno/Tongva](#)
[Tongva.land](#)

UC Davis, Native American Studies PhD Student

Harada, Patricia

From: Weaver, Tracy (City Clerk)
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:35 AM
To: Harada, Patricia; Sandoval, Lili
Subject: Fw: Comment in support of Tongva land acknowledgement

Council received email below. Please post to the website.

Tracy

From: Andre Barthelemy <agmb1214@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:12 AM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Comment in support of Tongva land acknowledgement

Good morning,

I am writing in **strong support** of the current land acknowledgement adopted by the El Segundo Arts and Culture Committee:

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Keep the acknowledgement. We are still here, and we see you.

Thank you,

Andre Montoya-Barthelemy (Morales), MD MPH
agmb1214@gmail.com // 505-980-5788

Harada, Patricia

From: Weaver, Tracy (City Clerk)
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:34 AM
To: Harada, Patricia; Sandoval, Lili
Subject: Fw: Land acknowledgement

Council received email below. Please post.

Tracy

From: Rachel Brewster <rachel.brewster@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:11 AM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Fwd: Land acknowledgement

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rachel Brewster <rachel.brewster@gmail.com>
Date: July 25, 2023 at 1:55:18 PM PDT
To: amancini@elsegundo.org
Subject: Land acknowledgement

Please continue to include the land acknowledgment to the Tongva people. This is highly relevant information that our community should be continuously be made aware of.

Regards,
Rachel Erne

Sent from my iPhone