

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-95**

2 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZING THE**
3 **CONFEDERATED VILLAGES OF LISJAN (OHLONE) AS ONE OF THE**
4 **ORIGINAL PEOPLES OF THIS LAND**

5 **WHEREAS**, the City Council of Albany acknowledges that for thousands of years, the
6 Ohlone people have tended to and cared for the land that is now known as Albany, building a
7 network of villages and Shellmounds, fishing in the Bay and freshwater creeks, cultivating,
8 gathering and growing foods and medicines, hunting, holding ceremony, seasonal festivals and
9 Big Times, and in many other ways treating this land with respect and reciprocity. Albany lies
10 within the traditional Ohlone territory of Huchiun, where the Ohlone language Chochenyo has
11 been spoken for hundreds of generations and where sacred sites and burial sites remain. Direct
12 descendants of these Ohlone include members of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan and are
13 visibly represented in Albany in the Sogorea Te' Land Trust; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, the City Council acknowledges that the Ohlone people's way of life was
16 violently disrupted by the Spanish occupation of this land. Ohlone people living in Huchiun
17 were kidnapped and forced to live and work as slaves at Mission Dolores and Mission San
18 Jose. During the Mexican era, this land was part of the Peralta Land Grant and the enslavement
19 of Ohlone people continued at the ranchos. The Gold Rush brought the arrival of hundreds of
20 thousands of settlers and the federal policies of termination during the United States conquest;
21 and

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23 **WHEREAS**, the City Council recognizes that despite over two hundred years of colonial
24 occupation, displacement and invisibilization, the Ohlone tribe of the Confederated Villages
25 of Lisjan continue to live here, revitalize their cultural practices and uphold their
26 responsibilities to protect and care for their ancestral homeland. The Sogorea Te' Land Trust,
27 the first urban Indigenous women-led land trust in the country, through many programs and
28 initiatives works for rematriation, cultural revitalization, and land restoration in Ohlone
29 territory; and

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2 **WHEREAS**, the City Council recognizes that the United Nations Declaration on the
3 Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) states in Article 32, 2, “States shall consult and
4 cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own
5 representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to approval
6 of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection
7 with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources”.

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9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council hereby recognizes
10 the Confederated Villages of Lisjan (Ohlone) as one of the original peoples of this land; and
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12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council directs the Parks, Recreation &
13 Open Space Commission to work with the Sogorea Te’ Land Trust to analyze parcels within
14 City boundaries and develop a joint plan to rematriate appropriate public lands and open spaces
15 back to the Confederated Villages of Lisjan in perpetuity through the Sogorea Te’ Land Trust.
16 This may include conservation and cultural easements and access agreements to City parks and
17 public land to gather traditional foods and medicines, hold ceremonies, and other Tribal
18 gatherings. The Council further directs the Commission to work with Sogorea Te’ Land Trust
19 to dedicate a park or section thereof to the history and resiliency of Ohlone people, similar to
20 ‘Ookwe Park in the City of Richmond; and
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22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council urges the Albany School
23 District and the Albany Library to create a committee to undertake a thorough evaluation of
24 their curriculum, programs and events to ensure that they are accurate and inclusive of the
25 history and resiliency of the Lisjan people; and
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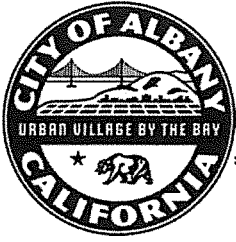
27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council establishes a two member
28 subcommittee to work on the following items:
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- the creation of signage on Solano Avenue and other City signs that acknowledge that Albany is on Ohlone land, similar to the Welcome to Berkeley signs that say “Ohlone Territory”; and
- to draft, in consultation with the Confederated Villages of Lisjan, a land acknowledgement to be formally adopted and read at the beginning of City Council meetings and all other City board and commission meetings. The subcommittee shall work with the Lisjan people in an ongoing effort to create relationships so that the land acknowledgement is a living document. Albany shall be the first city in Lisjan Ohlone land to formally adopt a land acknowledgement; and
- to prepare a budget proposal, in consultation with the Sogorea Te’ Land Trust, for the City to formally incorporate annual payment of the Shuumi Land Tax.



GE'NELL GARY, MBA – MAYOR



City of Albany

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PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 20th day of September, 2021, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Jordan, McQuaid, Nason, Tiedemann and Mayor Gary

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this

21st day of September, 2021.

Anne Hsu
CITY CLERK

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small town ambiance, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable community.