



CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, during National Native American Heritage Month, we celebrate the rich tapestry of Indigenous peoples and honor their sacrifices, which we recognize as inextricably woven into the history of this country; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1990, President George H.W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 “National American Indian Heritage Month; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans are descendants of the original indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans have moving stories of tragedy, triumph, and perseverance that need to be shared with future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the people indigenous to the area currently known as the City of Costa Mesa were part of a group of American Natives who crossed over the western mountain range from the “Great Basin” of Nevada, Utah, and Western Oregon; and

**WHEREAS**, Costa Mesa’s first inhabitants were the Tongva Native Americans who settled on the mesa near the banks of the Santa Ana River; and

**WHEREAS**, artifacts found on the mesa indicate that this site was a part of the village the Tongva people knew as Lukup; and

**WHEREAS**, as “Keepers of Mother Earth,” the Tongva Native Americans considered themselves stewards of the environment and were hunter-gatherers and dependent on their surroundings, using what was readily available in nature for food, clothing, and shelter; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the descendants of the indigenous people of this area still live throughout Orange County; and

**WHEREAS**, during the month of November, the City of Costa Mesa honors our native people and recognizes their continued contributions to strengthening the diversity of our society.



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**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John B. Stephens, Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as **Native American Heritage Month** and encourage all residents to learn more about the Native Americans who first called this City home and work with leaders for a greater future for all Costa Mesans.

***PRESENTED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2022.***

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***John B. Stephens, Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa***