



**White Salmon CityLab Board Meeting  
A G E N D A**

**December 28, 2021 – 6:00 PM**

**Via Zoom Teleconference**

**Meeting ID: 854 9433 1727 Passcode: 053546**

**Call in Numbers:**

**669-900-6833**

**929-205-6099**

**301-715-8592**

**346-248-7799**

**253-215-8782**

**312-626-6799**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

**Discussion and Action Items**

- [1.](#) 2022 Prioritization
- [2.](#) Land Recognition Resolution

**Adjournment**

Members of the public will be allowed to interact with board members during the board meeting to ask questions or make suggestions regarding the topics on the agenda. Please use the chat or raise hand feature in Zoom to indicate that you have a comment or a question. The Chair of the board may ask members of the public to wait for comments or questions until after the initial discussion takes place between board members.

**File Attachments for Item:**

1. 2022 Prioritization



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## CITYLAB BOARD AGENDA MEMO

Needs Legal Review: No  
Board Meeting Date: December 28, 2021  
Agenda Item: 2022 Priorities  
Presented By: Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

Attached is a list of priorities submitted by three of the members on the CityLab Board. Priorities for 2022 will be discussed at the December 28 committee meeting.

**CityLab Board**  
**2022 Priorities**  
**As of December 27, 2021**

**Ruth Olin**

- Create a Climate Action Plan for White Salmon
- Mitigate greenhouse gas emissions: specifically make White Salmon EV ready and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in city-owned buildings and fleets
- Research what green stormwater infrastructure would like for White Salmon and identify funding sources.
- Education – White Salmon set the example and stakeholder involvement.

**Peter Fink**

- Transitioning away from fossil fuel infrastructure in residential and commercial buildings: consider requiring all new construction to be fully electric and other green features, work toward transitioning existing homes to full electrification, and requiring low-embodied carbon materials and more sustainable construction activities.
- Make the city's electricity mix more renewable and carbon zero by increase small-scale solar, etc. and working with the PUD to address concerns on intermittency and reliability.
- Encourage water conservation, rainwater harvesting, stream and waterway protection, equitable access to water resources including working with the PUD and other stakeholders.
- Provide more accessible public transit, electric infrastructure, long-term electrification of public feet and emergency vehicles, in-town EV charging infrastructure, increasing opportunities for active transport: hiking trails, sidewalks, tree canopy cover, pedestrian-friendly infrastructure decisions.
- Identify vulnerable populations at risk of various health effects of extreme weather, existing pollution sources, etc.
- Provide incentives for carbon sequestration by our agricultural industry, increasing nourishing food access, security and reducing VMT and encouraging farmers' markets and other local food opportunities.
- Encourage recycling, composting, waste diversion, glass and bottle collection.
- Provide hubs for community collaboration, a potential conservation centers with RWC and UCD, centralized community resiliency hubs during extreme weather for harm reduction.

**Jim Ransier**

- Conduct emissions audit and determine the current baseline the city is working with an how to plan to measure it annually (or not measure it annually).
- Create a plan to address the top three sources of emissions.
- Install EV charging stations.
- Address fire resiliency particularly along the bluff and west of town along the White Salmon River canyon.

**File Attachments for Item:**

2. Land Recognition Resolution



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## CITYLAB BOARD AGENDA MEMO

Needs Legal Review: No  
Board Meeting Date: December 28, 2021  
Agenda Item: Proposed Resolution – Land Acknowledgement  
Presented By: Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

Attached is a draft resolution providing for a land acknowledgement. The Mayor has asked the CityLab Board to review and discuss this resolution.

I have been discussing with the Mayor how the city should also address the Nez Perce Tribe (Nimiipuu people), the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla people), and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (Wascos, Warm Springs, and Paiutes people) in addition to the Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Nation. The “people” information came from official tribal websites – I suspect there are different traditional spellings for the Umatilla and Warm Springs people then listed on their site, such as provided on the Nez Perce site. These three tribes, in addition to the Yakama Nation, also have a historic presence here including hunting and gathering. Here is information from the Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Nation’s website regarding the “treaty.”

Articles of agreement and convention made and concluded at the treaty-ground, Camp Stevens, Wall-Wall Valley, this ninth day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and Fifty-five, by and between Isaac I. Stevens, Governor and superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Territory of Washington, on the part of the United States, and the undersigned head chiefs, chief, head-men, and delegates of the Yakama Palouis, Pisquouse, Wenatchsahpam, Klikatat, Klingquit, Kow-was-say-ee, Li-was, Skin-pha, Wish-ham, Shyiks, Ocehchotes, Ka-milt-pha, and Se-ap-Cat, confederated tribes and bands of Indians, occupying lands hereinafter bounded and describes land lying in Washington Territory, who for the purposed of this treaty are to be considered as one nation, under the name of “Yakama,” with Kamiakun as its head chief, on behalf of and acting for said tribes and bans, and being duly authorized thereto by them.

I have also attached a document that discusses developing land acknowledgements.

**RESOLUTION 2021-12-532**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON,  
ACKNOWLEDGING THE HISTORIC LAND OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE AND THEIR  
SUCCESSORS, \_\_\_\_\_**

**WHEREAS**, the City of White Salmon lies on the historic land of the \_\_\_\_\_ people and their successors, the \_\_\_\_\_; and

**WHEREAS**, the City White Salmon acknowledges, since time immemorial, the \_\_\_\_\_ people and their successors, the \_\_\_\_\_ have hunted, fished, gathered on, and taken care of these lands and waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of White Salmon respects the \_\_\_\_\_ sovereignty, their right to self-determination and to honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of White Salmon will strive to be honest about our past mistakes and bring about a future that includes the \_\_\_\_\_ people and their successors, the \_\_\_\_\_ and their stories, and voices to form a more just and equitable society; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of White Salmon wishes to acknowledge the land and the original inhabitants of this place with a Land Acknowledgement Statement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Land Acknowledgement Statement was developed in partnership and agreement with \_\_\_\_\_.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of White Salmon:

The City of White Salmon acknowledges the original inhabitants of this place, the \_\_\_\_\_ people and their successors, the \_\_\_\_\_. Since time immemorial, they have hunted, fished, gathered on, and taken care of these lands and waters. The City of White Salmon respects the sovereignty of the \_\_\_\_\_, their right to self-determination and honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. The City of White Salmon will strive to be honest about our past mistakes and bring about a future that includes \_\_\_\_\_, and their stories and voices to form a more just and equitable society.

**ADOPTED** by the Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington. Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

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**Marla Keethler, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer**

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**Kenneth B. Woodrich, City Attorney**





# A GUIDE TO INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

OCTOBER 22, 2019

Native Governance Center co-hosted an **[Indigenous land acknowledgment event \(https://nativegov.org/resources/indigenous-land-acknowledgment-video/\)](https://nativegov.org/resources/indigenous-land-acknowledgment-video/)** with the **[Lower Phalen Creek Project \(http://www.lowerphalencreek.org/\)](http://www.lowerphalencreek.org/)** on Indigenous Peoples' Day 2019 (October 14). The event featured the following talented panelists: **[Dr. Kate Beane \(https://tedxminneapolis.com/kate-beane-phd-flandreau-santee-sioux/\)](https://tedxminneapolis.com/kate-beane-phd-flandreau-santee-sioux/)** (Flandreau Santee Dakota and Muskogee Creek), **[Mary Lyons \(https://about.me/wisdomlessonsml\)](https://about.me/wisdomlessonsml)** (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe), **[Rose Whipple \(https://youthprise.org/blog/rose-whipple-change-makers-series/\)](https://youthprise.org/blog/rose-whipple-change-makers-series/)** (Isanti Dakota and Ho-Chunk), **[Rhiana Yazzie \(https://rhianayazzie.com/\)](https://rhianayazzie.com/)** (Diné), and **[Cantemaza \(Neil\) McKay \(https://cla.umn.edu/about/directory/profile/mckay020\)](https://cla.umn.edu/about/directory/profile/mckay020)** (Spirit Lake Dakota). We've created this handy guide to Indigenous land acknowledgment based on our panelists' responses.

## WHY IS INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT IMPORTANT?

“It is important to understand the longstanding history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation.”

– **Northwestern University (<https://www.northwestern.edu/native-american-and-indigenous-peoples/about/Land%20Acknowledgement.html>)**

“When we talk about land, land is part of who we are. It’s a mixture of our blood, our past, our current, and our future. We carry our ancestors in us, and they’re around us. As you all do.”

– Mary Lyons (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe)

## TIPS FOR CREATING AN INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

### Key components:

**Start with self-reflection.** Before starting work on your land acknowledgment statement, reflect on the process:

- Why am I doing this land acknowledgment? (If you’re hoping to inspire others to take action to support Indigenous communities, you’re on the right track. If you’re delivering a land acknowledgment out of guilt or because everyone else is doing it, more self-reflection is in order.)
- What is my end goal? (What do you hope listeners will do after hearing the acknowledgment?)
- When will I have the largest impact? (Think about your timing and audience, specifically.)

**Do your homework.** Put in the time necessary to research the following topics:

- The Indigenous people to whom the land belongs.

- The history of the land and any related treaties.
- Names of living Indigenous people from these communities. If you're presenting on behalf of your work in a certain field, highlight Indigenous people who currently work in that field. Indigenous place names and language.
- Correct pronunciation for the names of the Tribes, places, and individuals that you're including.

**Use appropriate language.** Don't sugarcoat the past. Use terms like genocide, ethnic cleansing, stolen land, and forced removal to reflect actions taken by colonizers.

**Use past, present, and future tenses.** Indigenous people are still here, and they're thriving.

**Don't treat them as a relic of the past (<https://illuminatives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/MessageGuide-Allies-screen-spreads.pdf>).**

Land acknowledgments shouldn't be grim. They should function as living celebrations of Indigenous communities. Ask yourself, "How am I leaving Indigenous people in a stronger, more empowered place because of this land acknowledgment?" Focus on the positivity of who Indigenous people are today.

## **Additional factors to consider:**

**Don't ask an Indigenous person to deliver a "welcome" statement for your organization.**

Cantemaza McKay (Spirit Lake Nation) explains this very clearly. Check out our [land acknowledgment event livestream \(https://nativegov.org/resources/indigenous-land-acknowledgment-video/\)](https://nativegov.org/resources/indigenous-land-acknowledgment-event-livestream), and hear his comments at the 27-minute mark.

**Build real, authentic relationships with Indigenous people.** In addition to normal employment and family obligations, Indigenous people are working to heal their traumas, learn their languages, and support their nations. If you reach out for help, lead the conversation by asking an Indigenous person what you can do for them. Chances are, they're likely overworked and could use your help.

**Compensate Indigenous people for their emotional labor.** If you do plan to reach out to an Indigenous person or community for help, compensate them fairly. Too often, Indigenous people are asked to perform emotional labor for free.

**Understand displacement and how that plays into land acknowledgment.** Land acknowledgment is complicated. Remember that the United States government displaced many Tribes from land before treaties were signed.

**There are many types of land acknowledgments.** Don't expect to find a specific formula or template. Land acknowledgments that come from Indigenous people vs. non-Indigenous people look different, too.

## Take action:

- Land acknowledgment alone is not enough. It's merely a starting point. Ask yourself: how do I plan to take action to support Indigenous communities? Some examples of ways to take action:
- Support Indigenous organizations by donating your time and/or money.
- Support Indigenous-led grassroots change movements and campaigns. Encourage others to do so.
- Commit to returning land. Local, state, and federal governments around the world are currently **returning land to Indigenous people (<https://resourcegeneration.org/land-reparations-indigenous-solidarity-action-guide/>)**. Individuals are returning their land, too. Research your options to return your land.

## At the end of the day, remember:

Starting somewhere is better than not trying at all. We need to share in Indigenous peoples' discomfort. They've been uncomfortable for a long time. Dr. Kate Beane (Flandreau Santee Dakota and Muskogee Creek) says, "We have to try. Starting out with good intentions and a good heart is what matters most."

Visit our **resources page (<https://nativegov.org/resources/>)** for more helpful land acknowledgment tools! And read our own land acknowledgment statement: **The Land We're On (<https://nativegov.org/about/our-land-acknowledgement-statement/>)**.