

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY, STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of Affirming
Clackamas County's Commitment
to History and Culture



Resolution No. 2021-55

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WHEREAS, Clackamas County recognizes that history and culture reflect and shape values, beliefs, and aspirations, defining a people's identity; and

WHEREAS, Clackamas County affirms that in an era of globalization, history helps us to remember our cultural diversity as well as the experiences and contributions of previous generations, and its understanding develops mutual respect and renewed dialogue; and

WHEREAS, Clackamas County is named for the Clackamas people who lived here, and is also the homeland of the Chinook, Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla and other tribes and bands who lived and visited here from time immemorial and who continue to live here; and

WHEREAS, Clackamas County was formed as one of the original four districts of the Oregon Country in 1843; and

WHEREAS, Clackamas County is home to Oregon City, the original and main terminus of the Oregon Trail, the route of the greatest voluntary mass migration, which was platted by Hudson Bay Company's Chief Factor, Dr. John McLoughlin, in 1842; and

WHEREAS, Oregon City is the first American city west of the Rocky Mountains, incorporated in 1844, and was Oregon's territorial and then first state Capital; and

WHEREAS, Clackamas County is home to Willamette Falls on the Willamette River which is the ancestral homeland as well as a key fishing and trading center for the indigenous peoples and tribes who were displaced by government policies; and

WHEREAS, Willamette Falls is the second largest waterfall in America by water volume and it has been used as a hydropower resource, creating opportunities for lumber mills, grain milling, wool fabric production, brick manufacturing, and electricity generation, including the first long-distance transmission of electricity in the United States, and perhaps the world, from Oregon City to Portland; and

WHEREAS, The Willamette Falls Locks was built by the Peoples Transportation Company and opened in 1873, allowing for significant improvement of river transportation in the Willamette Valley for years; and

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WHEREAS, Clackamas County is a proud partner in the Willamette Falls Legacy Project, which will revive a cherished cultural site, create public access to the river, restore habitat for fish, lamprey, and numerous other species, promote tourism and economic development within the City of Oregon City; and

WHEREAS, Clackamas County includes 16 cities and numerous unincorporated communities, each with its own unique history that enriches the cultural diversity of Clackamas County, and

WHEREAS, over 60 local entities and organizations support the work of history and culture such as the Clackamas Historical Society, the Museum of the Oregon Territory, Willamette Falls Heritage Area and Landing Coalition, Clackamas County Tourism and Cultural Affairs, and many others;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS that:

1. The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners does hereby affirm that Clackamas County's rich history and culture are an important component of local, state and national tourism; and
2. Clackamas County will preserve, cultivate, and invest in activities and organizations that support this history, -culture and tourism.

DATED this 1 day of July, 2021.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Chair



Recording Secretary