

***A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE YAMPA VALLEY FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE LAND, WATER, PLANTS, ANIMALS, AND PEOPLE OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO.***

**WHEREAS**, The First Peoples known to live in the Yampa Valley trace their origins through their Numic speaking descendants. Today, they are known to be part of the Ute Nation. Their oral history traditions are without a migration story because they claim the Rocky Mountains as their origin and understand themselves to have been here for at least 10,000 years; and

**WHEREAS**, regionally the Ute tribe that inhabited the Yampa Valley are known as the Yamparika or Yampatika people who were later forcibly removed from their ancestral home and relocated to reservations in Utah and Southern Colorado after the Battle of Milk Creek in 1879; and

**WHEREAS**, we further recognize all other Native American tribes who passed through or made the Yampa Valley their home throughout time; and their stewardship cared for a Yampa Valley teeming with herds of American Bison, Colorado Elk, and Gray Wolf Packs, which subsequently became extinct in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; and

**WHEREAS**, the evident past of the Indigenous Peoples of the Yampa Valley is recognized as a valued and rich source of heritage, education, reflection, and celebration for all guests and members of the Steamboat Springs community, and we recognize the need to increase our efforts to include this in civic life and events; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized and appreciated that many Native Americans, and Indigenous Peoples of Mexico, Canada, and other parts of the Americas have lived, worked, and contributed to the history and contemporary life of the communities of the Yampa Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized and appreciated that the continued resilience of Indigenous Peoples in Steamboat Springs is due to the efforts of Native American individuals who share, promote, and maintain traditions within our community; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized that efforts by Steamboat Springs to support contemporary Native American initiatives to promote inclusion, respectful representation, education, and addressing social issues affecting Indigenous Peoples are at the forefront of our concern as a community; and

**WHEREAS**, a land acknowledgement is to be adopted to be used as a preamble for official events and as an example for our community to recognize the immense contribution Indigenous Peoples have made and make to our lives and our community.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED***, by the City Council of the City of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, that we hereby recognize the Indigenous Peoples of the Yampa Valley for their contribution to the land, water, plants, animals, and people IN STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, ROUTT COUNTY.

**ADOPTED THIS 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.**

Attest:

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**Julie Franklin, CMC**  
City Clerk

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**Jason Lacy**  
Steamboat Springs City Council President