

CITY COUNCIL REPORT
PUBLIC

DATE: October 24, 2016

TO: Mayor, Vice-Mayor and City Council

FROM: Stephanie Smith, Assistant to the City Manager

CC: Josh Copley, Barbara Goodrich, Shane Dille and Leadership Team

SUBJECT: Indigenous Community Forums

The following is a City Council Report on the upcoming Indigenous Community Forums. (These events were formerly known as town halls.)

Background

In August 2016, the Flagstaff City Council directed staff to work with the community to convene a series of forums focused on learning more about the many issues facing Indigenous People in our community. Over the last couple months, the Indigenous Circle of Flagstaff (a group of individuals in the community committed to this effort) in partnership with City staff have developed a process for these forums that aim to make a meaningful, positive impact in lives of Indigenous Peoples in Flagstaff through dialog, collaboration, action and policy for the benefit of all.

As discussed at the Council work session in August, the second phase will include the Flagstaff City Council convening a work session to develop an action plan that is responsive to the feedback received at the Indigenous Community Forums. Following the forums and additional community input, the Flagstaff City Council will discuss adoption of lasting actions that support Indigenous Peoples. Staff anticipates this to take place during the spring of 2017.

Outreach and Opportunities to Provide Comments

The Indigenous Circle of Flagstaff group will be conducting personal and traditional outreach to Native communities to attend the forums. The team will also conduct special outreach to educational and service partners in the community. Flyers and informational materials developed by the community team will be distributed. In addition, the City will send official notifications to tribal governments and advertise on the City's communication platforms.

In addition to providing comments at the forums, community members can submit comments by the following means:

- Email – IndigenousCF@gmail.com
- Mail: - Indigenous Community Forum, 211 W. Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff 86001
- In-person: Flagstaff Public Libraries, NACA, Native American Cultural Center at NAU and other locations TBD.

Key Dates and Topics

The forum format will be structured to include a traditional welcome and blessing. Forums on Health and Elder Care, Economic Development and Social Justice will be scheduled for early 2017. The following two forums are confirmed:

Youth and Education

Wednesday, November 16th
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Flagstaff High School

Homelessness

Wednesday, November 30th
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Flagstaff High School

Additional Details

Through a partnership with NAIPTA, bus service will be free to all those attending the forum. The events will be recorded and alternatives will be provided for those not wishing to be recorded. Translation services are still being confirmed.

Recommendation/Conclusion

This report is for information only.