## Proclamation of Recognition of

## **Indigenous Peoples' Day**

in the Corporation of Harpers Ferry

WHEREAS, the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, Harpers Ferry is built upon the homelands of the Indigenous Peoples of these regions; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation of Harpers Ferry recognizes and values the many contributions made to our society through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts and the deep cultural contribution that has substantially shaped the character of our nation, state, and town; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation of Harpers Ferry opposes the systematic racism towards all people, including Indigenous People, in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation of Harpers Ferry promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our nation's indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the second Monday of this and each following October hereafter be known as

## **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY**

in the Corporation of Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and I hereby encourage businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Signed by me, Mayor Gregory F. Vaughn, this 10 day of October, 2016.

Gregory F. Vaueg