 **Costanoan Rumsen  
Carmel Tribe**



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**Dr. William Welsh, D.O.**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2010

**Native Ohlone to Celebrate "Ohlone Inclusion Resolution" with the SF Board of Supervisors**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - The native Californian Ohlone tribe continues its return to its homeland of San Francisco and will likely get the support of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in a vote on Tuesday, August 10 (tomorrow). A resolution introduced by Supervisor Maxwell on Aug 3rd, urges the Mayor, Planning Department and the Redevelopment Agency to include the Ohlone in the planning process. The purpose is to bring Ohlone into the cultural life of San Francisco, a life from which one of the Ohlone tribes who is organizing the events tomorrow, have been exiled since 1834.

Tomorrow begins for the Ohlone with a public sunrise ceremony at 6am, and includes testifying at the Supervisors' meeting about 2:30 in the afternoon. The tribe will hold a press conference after the meeting, about 4pm, in City Hall (Room 278).

The 6am sunrise ceremony will occur at Yosemite Slough, accessed at the end of Carroll Road in Candlestick Point State Park (see attached map). Television and photojournalists are invited to attend. The park has the potential to host a circular, outdoor ceremonial arbor for Ohlone and public use. If it were restored the Slough could become a precious salt marsh ecosystem that helps heal the Bay, according to State publicity about the park.


Of highest priority for the Ohlone community is preventing any desecration of their native burial, village and ceremonial sites, the Ohlone ancestors.

"What often happens is the builders start driving pylons into the ground at some project site, discover some bones and artifacts, and say 'oh, sorry' and offer a monument as an apology," says Neil MacLean of the Ohlone Profiles Project. "This resolution aims to prevent that from happening."

The supervisors are urging a full and meaningful inclusion of Ohlone in the development of Hunter's Point.

Cont...



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It officially reads as a "Resolution urging the City Planning Department and Redevelopment Agency to establish specific protocols for ongoing collaboration with representatives of the Ohlone Peoples and other Native American groups for the redevelopment of Candlestick Point and the Hunters Point Shipyard." The Environmental Impact Report notes that there are 16 Ohlone "archeological resources" within 1/4 mile of the project area.

This Resolution comes after the Ohlone were excluded from the 2-year planning process that was nearing final approval on January 12, 2010. The Ohlone were not notified, and only after finding out via word-of-mouth did they insert themselves with rushed comments pleading for more time. The Planning Department's rush prevented any extension of the comment period. Consequently, the environmental planning window closed without meaningful Ohlone input or participation. After that, the Ohlone and their supporters began to speak to their Supervisors, especially Sophie Maxwell and Eric Mar.

Many Ohlone want to appear in the cultural life of San Francisco, and the resolution speaks to that need. "If we don't appear in San Francisco, we remain invisible," said Ann Marie Sayers, Chairwoman of Indian Canyon and adviser to the Ohlone Profiles Project.

We are joining with the Ohlone Profiles Project in a four-year ceremonial cycle of Ohlone Renewal which began last November with a momentous film projection onto Coit Tower produced by native artists including several Ohlone. An Ohlone invocation was broadcast live over FM radio and the event was covered live by broadcast news. The cycle continued with a People's Earth Day 2010 cleansing and opening celebration of the Eco-Center at Heron's Head Park. [http://tenthmil.com/campaigns/energy/off\\_the\\_grid\\_at\\_herons\\_head\\_park](http://tenthmil.com/campaigns/energy/off_the_grid_at_herons_head_park)

[www.ohloneprofiles.org](http://www.ohloneprofiles.org)

**Schedule**

Tuesday, 6am, Yosemite Slough Sunrise Ceremony (public, TV welcome)

Tuesday 2pm: board of supervisors meeting including testimony about the resolution

Tuesday 4pm City Hall, Room 278, Press Conference with Chairman Tony Cerda and members of Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe (CRCT), Chairwomen Ann Marie Sayers, and others


Notable language includes:

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges the Planning Department and the Redevelopment Agency to develop clear protocols to engage relevant Native American groups during the implementation of the Project to: (i) ensure compliance with applicable archeological-related mitigation measures; (ii) make informed decisions about archeological resources on the Project Site at all stages of the development; and (iii) conduct planning efforts related to any cultural or community facilities developed as part of the Project; and, be it..

cont

[www.costanoanrumsen.org](http://www.costanoanrumsen.org)



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"FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges both the project sponsor and relevant City agencies to follow to these protocols, and encourages City staff to report on the adherence to the protocols as well as the nature and extent of ongoing public participatory processes, when seeking Commission design input or approval for proposed community facilities as part of this Project.

**PREVIOUS TRIBAL EVENTS:**

April 2010 People's Earth Day cleansing and celebration of opening the Eco-Center at Heron's Head Park. [http://tenthmil.com/campaigns/energy/off\\_the\\_grid\\_at\\_herons\\_head\\_park](http://tenthmil.com/campaigns/energy/off_the_grid_at_herons_head_park)

Nov. 24-26, 2009 - Celebrating Indigenous Renewal Ohlone film projection and radio broadcast at Coit Tower: opening event of the four-year ceremonial cycle. <http://ohloneprofiles.org/>

**FUTURE TRIBAL EVENTS:**

Nov. 11, 2010: Veterans Day parade, Veterans Honor Ceremony in the horseshoe, Forum on Indigenous culture

June 4, 2011: Ohlone Humaya Dancers (Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe) host the Ethnic Dance Festival at YBCA: healing people and the planet, sweat lodge, sunrise ceremony