From:	Kristen Jordan
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Land acknowledgement created for the county
Date:	Wednesday, February 23, 2022 1:39:07 PM

Missoula County and its surrounding areas are the traditional and current homelands of the Séliš (*Bitterroot Salish*), Ktunaxa (*Kootenai*), and Qlispé (*Kalispell*), along with the Siksikaitsitapi (*Blackfoot Confederacy*), Nimiipuu (*Nez Perce*) and other tribal nations who relied upon their traditional knowledge and relationships with this land and this space for survival in the past and today. We acknowledge that health, education, and legal systems have led to the direct oppression, removal, and marginalization of Indigenous people throughout Montana and the nation.

We further acknowledge that these same systems have a responsibility to actively address the systemic disparities that now exist through actions aimed at respecting tribal sovereignty, creating safe and healthy spaces for Indigenous people, and developing programs and services aimed at recognizing and leveraging the inherent power within our Indigenous communities.