

**NAHC 4/21/23 Meeting**  
**Agenda Item 6(c)**

**DRAFT**

**RESOLUTION OF THE STATE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION  
CONCERNING THE UPDATE TO ITS 2018 STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Whereas,** the State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC or Commission) was created in 1976 as the primary government agency responsible for the identification, cataloguing and protection of Native American cultural resources, sacred sites and human remains;  
and

**Whereas,** the Commission over the past 25 years has been given a number of additional duties and responsibilities with regard to cultural resources protection, including, but not limited to, managing the Native American contact list, acting as the repatriation oversight commission for the State, and acting as a resource for tribes concerning compliance with such laws as AB 52, SB 18 and CalNAGPRA;  
And

**Whereas,** the Commission, at this time, has limited monetary and human resources, including a limited number of technical staff;  
And

**Whereas,** the Commission must manage its resources and obligations giving priority and preference to its statutory responsibilities and to Commission work that will assist and empower the tribes it is established to assist;  
And

**Whereas,** the Commission has in effect an NAHC 5-Year Strategic Plan dated January 19, 2018 that provides the framework for the Commission's priorities and the work it will focus on to assist tribes with the protection and proper treatment of their cultural and heritage resources, and which provides the framework and priorities for the Executive Secretary's duties in service of the Commission's work;  
And

**Whereas,** on January 19, 2023 the Commission held 3-hour single-subject meeting hosted by the Santa Ynez Tribe at the Santa Ynez Reservation to begin discussions on updating the 2018 NAHC Strategic Plan;  
And

**Whereas**, at the January 19, 2023 NAHC meeting the Commission set forth immediate priorities for the NAHC and three (3) motions concerning how the Executive Secretary and staff shall proceed to work on the Strategic Plan update;

And

**Whereas**, all three (3) of the motions passed with a unanimous vote and the priorities agreed upon;

And

**Whereas**, on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Commission set forth the following immediate NAHC priorities to be carried out by the Executive Secretary and the Commission staff:

1. Hire a Chief Legal Counsel
2. Commence and Complete the Contact List Regulations
3. Conduct meetings throughout the State with tribal governments concerning their places, traditional territory, culture, and matters of relevance to cultural resource protection
4. Update the NAHC's technology;

And

**Whereas**, on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Commission duly passed the following motions:

1. The Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Commission, shall immediately send out the current NAHC Strategic Plan to all tribes inviting written comments and plan at least 3 NAHC Commission meetings throughout the State over the next nine (9) months to engage in consultation on NAHC priorities and tribal needs concerning repatriation, protection of sacred sites, human remains and cultural resources. The written comment period shall remain open throughout the entire 9-month period.
2. The Executive Secretary and staff, shall begin editing the current strategic plan for ongoing commission review, incorporating the Commission discussion at its 1/19/23 meeting, including updating Appendix A to include all laws implicated in the work of the NAHC and all statutes that name the NAHC contact list.
3. The Executive Secretary and staff prepare a draft comprehensive proposed budget that addresses all staff and fiscal needs surrounding the duties and responsibilities of the Commission. The budget shall include narratives that explain and support the budget request. A preliminary discussion draft shall be prepared for discussion at the next quarterly Commission meeting [April 2023].

**Now, therefore it be resolved:**

1. The Current NAHC Strategic Plan will remain in effect until an updated Strategic Plan is adopted by the Commission.
2. The above priority list shall be the immediate focus of the NAHC agency.

3. The Commission directs the Executive Secretary and staff to implement the Commission motions concerning the Strategic Plan and the priorities of the NAHC.
4. A report on the progress of implementation of the motions and priorities shall be provided to the Commission on a monthly basis and at the regularly scheduled quarterly meetings by the Executive Secretary. These reports shall contain schedules, detailed outreach efforts, and a compilation of tribal comments in both a summary format as well as raw data.
5. The Executive Secretary provide a quarterly report on the budget expenditures to the Commission.
6. The Executive Secretary shall communicate any Commission preferences, edits, changes to the January 2023 budget to State Department of Finance in time for the May Revise budget. A special budget meeting may be called by the Chairperson, if necessary.