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REBRAND WASHINGTON FOOTBALL

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REBRAND WASHINGTON FOOTBALL APPLAUDS MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR APPROVING RESOLUTION ON NAME CHANGE

Today, the Montgomery County Council approved a <u>resolution</u> asking Daniel Snyder to change the name of his football team, which is a dictionary defined racial slur. Rebrand Washington Football (RWF) applauds the County Executive and Council for backing this resolution which sends a strong message that racial stereotypes as the names and mascots of sports teams are not acceptable. Rather, they denigrate Native Americans and reinforce stereotypical views held by non-Natives.

While Mr. Snyder has said the team will retire the old name, news reports suggest that he might be considering a new name that replaces a racial slur with a stereotypical name such as Warriors, which evokes Native American imagery and exaggerated characteristics. This would be a dishonor to Native Americans and would only continue the injury this team has inflicted on Native Americans for decades.

The Montgomery County resolution states in part, "Whereas, several Native American and non-Native American civil rights organizations and religious institutions have called for the elimination of Native American names, logos and mascots." This could not be clearer. Mr. Snyder must not replace one Native American name and mascot with another.

Josh Silver, a Bethesda resident and co-founder of RWF, states, "I am proud of my hometown today. The council took a stand against racism and racial stereotypes, and a stand for a better tomorrow. I hope Mr. Snyder takes heed."

Montgomery County joins the District of Columbia, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria in passing resolutions urging Mr. Snyder to change the name of his team.

RWF also applauded the Council for introducing a <u>resolution</u> designating the second Monday in October as Indigenous People's Day and asking the state of Maryland to do the same.