

Santa Rosa City Council Meeting  
July 22, 2025  
Public Comments

Rec'd at Meeting	7/22/25
Item No.	14
From:	

Good afternoon Members of the City Council,

My name is Maryanne Michaels. I have been a resident of Santa Rosa since 1981 and my current address is 4444 Culebra Avenue. I am a member of the Religious Society of Friends of Truth.

On October 13, 2024 my monthly meeting approved the following Land Acknowledgement statement:

**Redwood Forest Friends Meeting acknowledges that our Meeting House and the homes of our members and attenders are on unceded land of the Coast Miwok, Pomo, and Wappo Peoples, who have lived here for millennia. These lands were taken by settler colonizers in fraudulent and violent ways. We seek ways to promote healing and right-relationship with the land and Indigenous people. Toward this end, we commit to act as allies to support tribal sovereignty and help redistribute land, power, and resources back to Native communities.**

I currently reside in Rincon Valley near the confluence of Santa Rosa Creek and Brush Creek which is the sacred site of the Bita-Kom-tara village.

In keeping with my commitment to act as an ally to Native communities as stated in the land acknowledgement of Redwood Forest Friends Meeting, I urge you to do all in your power to respectfully recognize the original Pomo people who lived on the land that we now call Flat Rock Park by supporting the following three requests:

- 1) that the new wording on the plaque uses respectful language,
- 2) that there is signage maintained by the city  
that tells the true history of this sacred site, and
- 3) that the name of the park be changed to Bita-Kom-tara Park.

Thank you for your support of these three requests.