CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION ________________

WHEREAS, the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) is a 1,168-mile, 30-inch diameter pipeline being developed by Energy Transfer Partners and its affiliates, which would carry as much as 570,000 barrels per day of Bakken crude from western North Dakota to Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the DAPL would run across or beneath 209 rivers, creeks and tributaries, including the Missouri River, which provides drinking water and irrigates agricultural land in communities across the Midwest, serving nearly 10 million people; and

WHEREAS, the DAPL would also run through the ancestral lands and waters reserved for the traditional use of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe by the Treaty of Ft. Laramie, including the Missouri River, burial grounds and gravesites, and other sacred sites of cultural, religious, and historical significance; and

WHEREAS, Indian Treaties such as the Treaty of Ft. Laramie are recognized by the U.S. Constitution as “the supreme law of the land,” and require consultation and cooperation by the United States with its Indian Treaty partner before any federal action is taken that affects Treaty lands, territories, waters or other resources; and

WHEREAS, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 affirms the need to “protect and preserve for American Indians their inherent right of freedom to believe, express, and exercise the traditional religions,” particularly in American Indian sacred places; and
WHEREAS, Washington State recognizes that American Indian burial grounds and historic
graves are “a finite, irreplaceable, and nonrenewable cultural resource, and are an
intrinsic part of the cultural heritage of the people of Washington” (RCW 27.44.030);

WHEREAS, Articles, 11, 12, and 25 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of
Indigenous People (UNDRIP), as endorsed by the United States in 2010, affirms that
indigenous peoples like the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe possess the right to maintain and
protect their culture, religion, practices, and relationship with their “traditionally owned
or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories [and] waters”; and

WHEREAS, the UNDRIP Article 32 further provides that governments shall consult with
indigenous peoples “in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the
approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly
in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other
resources”; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle City Council proclaimed in 2012 by Resolution 31420 that Seattle is a
Human Rights City and is committed to promoting human rights; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle City Council passed Resolution 31538 in 2014 to recognize the second
Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples’ Day in the City of Seattle, in recognition of
“the systematic racism towards Indigenous people in the United States” and in “honor
[of] our nation’s indigenous roots, history, and contributions”; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers failed to consult with or obtain the free, prior
and informed consent of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe as required by the Treaty of Fort
Laramie, Executive Order 13175, the UNDRIP Article 10, and other federal and
international laws, before issuing a “Mitigated Finding of No Significant Impact” that
would result in an easement for horizontal directional drilling for the DAPL; and

WHEREAS, any spill of oil into the Missouri River would irreparably harm the Standing Rock
Sioux Tribe’s Treaty reserved lands, territories, waters and other resources; burial
grounds, gravesites and other sacred sites of cultural, religious, and historical
significance; and spiritual relationships and indigenous ways of life; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Seattle, City Councils of Portland, Oregon, St. Paul and
Minneapolis, Minnesota, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians comprised of 59 Indian
Nations in the Northwest, and nearly 200 Indian Nations, are among the governmental
bodies that have taken formal action to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and
oppose the DAPL; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE
MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:

Section 1. The City of Seattle stands in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe’s
opposition to construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) across the Tribe’s ancestral
lands, waters and sacred sites.

Section 2. The City of Seattle calls upon the United States and the Army Corps of
Engineers to obtain the free, prior and informed consent of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, prior
to taking any federal action regarding the DAPL that would harm or destroy the Tribe’s ancestral
lands, waters and sacred sites.

Section 3. The City of Seattle proclaims that October 10, 2016, Indigenous Peoples’ Day
in the City of Seattle, will commemorate and support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe’s
opposition to the DAPL.
Adopted by the City Council the ________ day of _________________________, 2016,
and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this ________ day of
______________________________, 2016.

____________________________________
President ____________ of the City Council

The Mayor concurred the ________ day of _________________________, 2016.

____________________________________
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this ________ day of _________________________, 2016.

____________________________________
Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)