

Ride Connection acknowledges that our facilities are located on the traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla, and many other Indigenous nations of the Columbia River, who have called this place home long before the arrival of white colonizers.<sup>1</sup> We honor and recognize the enduring relationship between Indigenous peoples and their territories.

Indigenous Communities in the Portland area and throughout the Pacific Northwest established an extensive network of trade routes, facilitating the exchange of goods, ideas, and cultural practices. We recognize that with the arrival of white colonizers, these Indigenous footpaths were paved over with roadways as infrastructure expanded. This was often at the expense of Native lands, disrupting traditional practices and displacing communities. The ongoing legacy of settler colonialism has disrupted Indigenous ways of life, forcing them to relocate from their ancestral lands and resulting in the genocide of entire communities.

Ride Connection is committed to recognizing and rectifying historical injustices. We acknowledge that barriers and gaps in service and partnership with Indigenous communities exist, and we are dedicated to learning and engaging in restorative, responsible and culturally centered policy changes, and service improvements. Our goal is to reduce barriers and help to facilitate a more equitable and inclusive transportation system.

We are also committed to amplifying the voices of Indigenous communities in decision-making processes, ensuring that their perspectives are valued and integrated into the planning and development of transportation infrastructure.

We welcome opportunities to grow and collaborate with Indigenous communities to ensure our efforts are aligned with their needs and aspirations.

<sup>1</sup> *(Portland Indian Leaders Roundtable, 2018)*