



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



2760 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697  
 (562) 570-3100 • FAX (562) 570-3109  
[www.LBParks.org](http://www.LBParks.org)

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March 22, 2018

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
 City of Long Beach  
 California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the Housing and Neighborhood Committee the name "Luke Tatsu Johnson Court" for the multi-use sport court in Marina Vista Park. (District 3)

## DISCUSSION

On February 13, 2018, Councilmember Suzie Price requested that the Mayor and the members of the City Council (Attachment A) refer to the Parks and Recreation Commission a request to recommend that the multi-use sport court (Court) situated in Marina Vista Park, located at 5355 Elliot Street, be named after Luke Tatsu Johnson (Attachment B). The Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation will be transmitted to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee and the full City Council.

Administrative Regulation AR 8-7 applies to the naming of all public land, buildings and facilities. AR 8-7 provides several policies to guide the consideration of a naming request. The following are those policies:

- The name should incorporate Long Beach whenever important for civic recognition or identification;
- A name in honor of a recognized geographic area, a topographic feature or a historically significant event may be appropriate;
- A name in honor of persons or families who have donated the land or a substantial portion of the improvement costs may be appropriate when applicable;
- A name in honor of a person or persons who have served the nation, the State of California, and/or the City of Long Beach in an exceptional or distinguished manner may be appropriate if warranted by service of major significance;
- A name in honor of a living person, or of a deceased person within one year of their death, is not appropriate unless the significance of that person's contribution is worthy of an exception to the policy;
- A name in honor of a person is not appropriate when a name in honor of another person has been given to the same site, building or facility in the past;
- A name in honor of a person is not appropriate if that person been overly recognized in the past, and;

- A name may be selected through a competition or a contest.

In accordance with this regulation, the name referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Luke Tatsu Johnson, denotes the name of an individual. Luke was a member of a student committee that was created as part of the Third District's 2<sup>nd</sup>-in-the-nation participatory budgeting program. The program involved developing project proposals, student meetings and a vote being held open to all middle and high school students in the Third District. Over 700 votes were cast by local youth and the process led to the decision to construct the Court in Marina Vista park.

Luke Johnson was an important member of this student committee. He was a resident of Alamitos Heights and lived close to the park with his mother Rena, father Todd and brother Spencer. Luke was diagnosed with Leukemia at the age of 14, on the very day he started his freshman year at Wilson High School. In 2016, Luke lost his two-year battle with Leukemia. This journey took him out of school throughout his early high school career. This committee became one of the ways he was able to stay in contact with his peers during his illness and it was a responsibility he took seriously.

Luke Johnson was a well-loved member of the community who was a friend to everyone. He is deeply missed by his community, his peers and his family. In honor of his community involvement and the role he played in the Court in Marina Vista Park being built, the community has expressed its support for naming the Court in Luke Johnson's memory.

FISCAL IMPACT

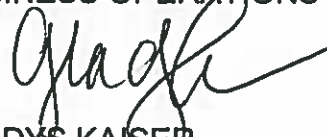
There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
LESLIE UNTENER  
INTERIM MANAGER  
BUSINESS OPERATIONS

  
GLADYS KAISER  
MANAGER  
COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES

APPROVED:

  
STEPHEN P. SCOTT  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

SS:LU:GK:rl

Att: A – February 13 City Council Agenda Item R-16  
B – Aerial of location of the proposed "Luke Tatsu Johnson Court" in Marina Vista Park




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**R-16**  
**REVISED**

**Date:** February 13, 2018

**To:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Councilwoman Suzie Price, Third District 

**Subject:** Naming of Luke Tatsu Johnson Court

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#### **INTRODUCTION:**

In 2015 a group of Third District students were involved in the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation, youth participatory budgeting program. This program involved developing project proposals, student meetings, and a vote being held open to all Middle and High School students in the Third District. Over 700 votes were cast by the local youth and the process led to the decision to construct a multi-use sport court in Marina Vista Park.

One important member of this student committee was 15-year-old, Luke Johnson. Luke was a resident of Alamitos Heights and lived close to the park with his mother Rena, father Todd and brother, Spencer. Luke was diagnosed with Leukemia at the age of 14, on the very day he started his freshman year at Wilson High School. In 2016 Luke lost his two-year battle with Leukemia. This journey took him out of school throughout his early high school career. This committee became one of the ways he was able to stay in contact with his peers during his illness and was a responsibility he took seriously.

Luke Johnson was a well-loved member of the community who was a friend to everyone. He is deeply missed by his community, his peers, and his family. In honor of his community involvement and role in the Marina Vista sport court being built, the community has expressed its support for naming the new sport court in Luke Johnson's memory.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Council is referring to the Parks and Recreation Commission to consider naming the sport court at Marina Vista Park the "Luke Tatsu Johnson Court" and report back to City Council within 45 days.



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**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is not a financial impact as a result of the recommended action.





Attachment B  
Proposed "Luke Tatsu Johnson Court" in Marina Vista Park



0 25 50 75 100 Feet