



Date: March 9, 2010
To: Members of the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee
From: Phil T. ~~Hosler~~ *Director of Parks* Recreation and Marine
Subject: Recommendation to name the new skate park at 14th Street Park "Michael K. Green Skate Park"

DISCUSSION

On November 3, 2009, Sixth District Councilmember Dee Andrews sent a memo (Attachment A) to the Mayor and Members of the City Council requesting that the new skate park at 14th Street Park be named "Michael K. Green Skate Park."

Pursuant to Administrative Regulation (AR) 8 – 7, the City Council referred the request to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee.

The Parks and Recreation Commission considered this request at their February 18, 2010 meeting (Attachment B), unanimously approved this request, and are forwarding their recommendation to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee for adoption.

The Administrative Regulations 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 has been overly recognized in the past; and,
- A name may be selected through a competition or a contest.

On April 9, 2005, Michael K. Green was caught in a gang crossfire and killed. He had no gang involvement himself. Michael was an important part of the community and his death was tragic. He was a community leader and role model. According to many in the community, his polite, respectful demeanor and talent as a skateboarder, which earned him a sponsorship by Vans Shoes, inspired kids to pick up skate boards and not guns.

Naming the 14th Street skate park after a young skateboarder is an appropriate way to recognize the young people who will be the primary users of this park. Naming the park after their fallen friend may also inspire people to take a special interest in the well being of the park and those who use it.

Michael was not a wealthy philanthropist, elected official, or community organizer. He was a normal kid who became a leader because of his positive attitude, respect for other people, and love for skating. For this reason, the community around the park and the people who will use this park support naming the skate park after Michael.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is not time critical.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact with the recommended action.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE:


Concur with the recommendation that the new skate park at 14th Street Park be named "Michael K. Green Skate Park" and refer the recommendation to the City Council for approval.

PTH:rb

C:\MYDOCUMENTS\COUNCIL\HNC MICHAEL K GREEN SKATE PARK.DOC

Attachments

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Office of Robert Garcia
Council Member, First District
Memorandum

Date: January 19, 2010
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Council Member Robert Garcia, First District *RG*
Subject: Michael K. Green Skate Park

Background:

A new skateboarding park is scheduled to open January 17, 2010. The park will provide much-needed recreational activities to area youth, and young people throughout the neighborhood and the city are excited to use this new, world-class equipment to skate.

On April 9, 2005, Michael K. Green was caught in a gang crossfire and killed. He had no gang involvement himself. Michael was a popular, polite teenager and an avid, skilled skateboarder. He was known as a friendly kid, and taught many younger people to skateboard. In a neighborhood where violence and gangs were common, Michael kept out of trouble and preferred to skate or joke around rather than get into fights. Michael was an important part of the community and his death was tragic. He is sorely missed by his family and friends, and was a community leader and role model. According to many in the community, his polite, respectful demeanor and talent as a skateboarder – which earned him a sponsorship by Vans Shoes – “inspired kids to pick up skate boards and not guns”.

Naming the 14th Street skate park after a young skater is an appropriate way to recognize the young people who will be the primary users of this park. Naming the park after their fallen friend may also inspire people to take a special interest in the well being of the park and those who use it.

Michael was not a wealthy philanthropist, elected official, or community organizer. He was a normal kid who became a leader because of his positive attitude, respect for other people, and love for skating. For this reason, the community around the park and the people who will use this park support naming the skate park after Michael.

Recommendation:

Recommend designating the new skate park at Pacific and 14th as “Michael K. Green Skate Park,” and refer this item to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to the Housing & Neighborhoods Committee.



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



2760 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697

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February 18, 2010

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee and the full City Council that "Michael K. Green Skate Park" is an appropriate name for the new skate park in 14th Street Park.

DISCUSSION

The action before the Parks and Recreation Commission is to recommend the name "Michael K. Green Skate Park" for the new skate park in 14th Street Park.

On January 19, 2010, First District Council Member Robert Garcia sent a memo (Attachment A) to the Mayor and members of the City Council requesting that the new skate park in 14th Street Park be named "Michael K. Green Skate Park," see aerial photo on Attachment B.

Pursuant to Administrative Regulation AR 8-7, the City Council has referred the request to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhood Committee for consideration of the proposed name. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation will be transmitted to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee and the full City Council.

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;

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

On April 9, 2005, Michael K. Green was caught in a gang crossfire and killed. He had no gang involvement himself. Michael was an important part of the community and his death was tragic. He was a community leader and role model. According to many in the community, his polite, respectful demeanor and talent as a skateboarder, which earned him a sponsorship by Vans Shoes, inspired kids to pick up skate boards and not guns.

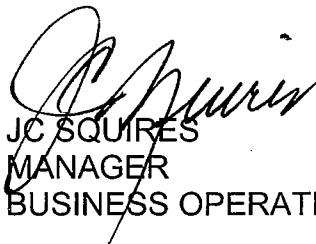
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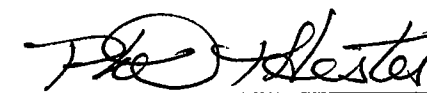
SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

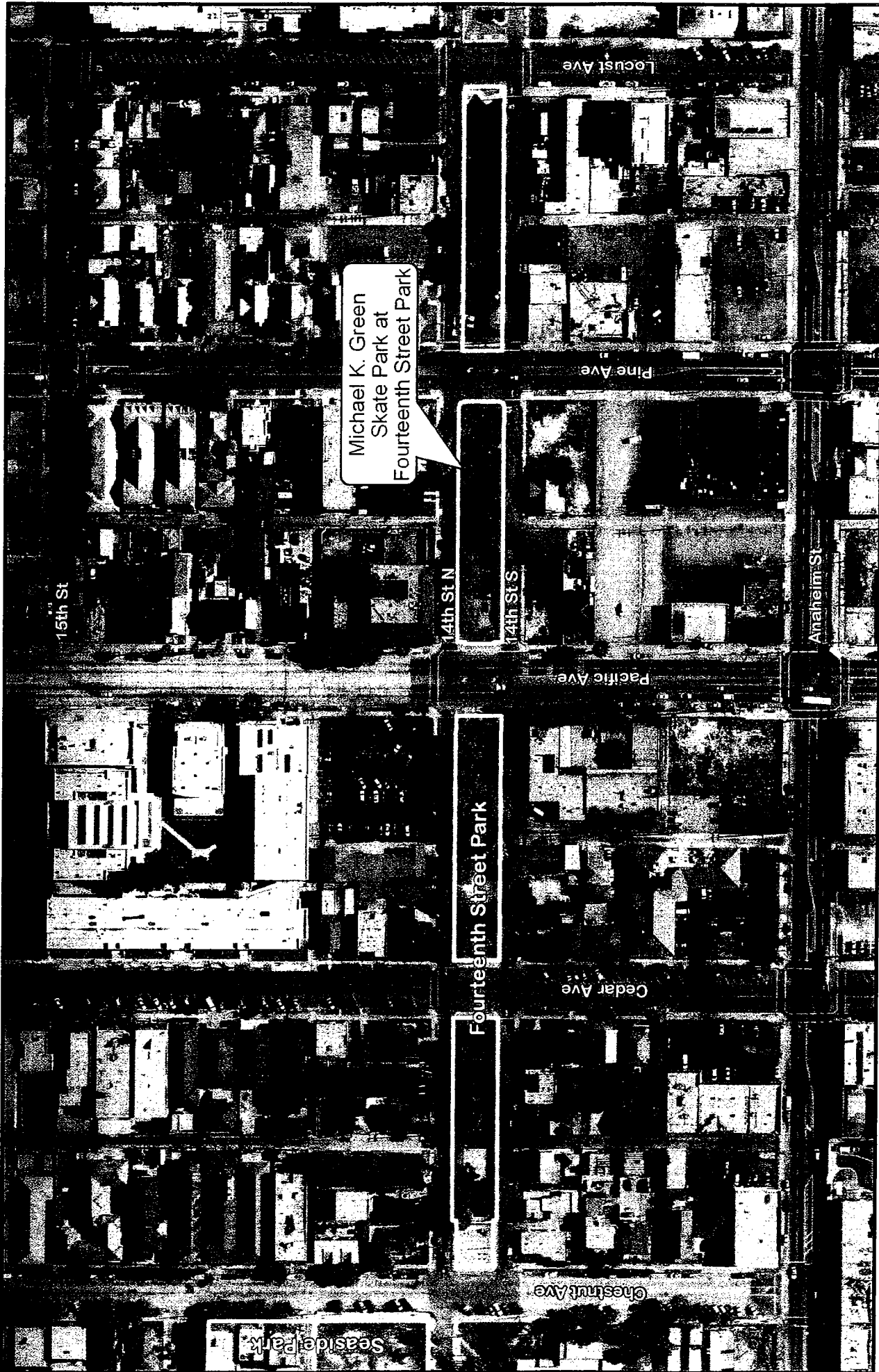
Respectfully submitted,


JC SQUIRES
MANAGER
BUSINESS OPERATIONS

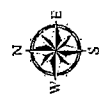
APPROVED:



PHIL T. HESTER
DIRECTOR



Michael K. Green
Skate Park at
Fourteenth Street Park



Michael K. Green Skate Park at Fourteenth Street Park

