




City of Long Beach

Office of Robert Garcia Revised
Councilmember, First District

NB-31

Date: November 16, 2010
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Council Member Robert Garcia, First District 
Subject: **Mary Molina Community Garden**

Background:

In 2005, the City accepted the donation of a parcel of land at 1640 W. 20th Street from the Molina family for the creation of a public park. The park, as yet uncreated, was named "Molina Park".

Recently, the Molina family and members of the community agreed to create a community garden on this site. The Molina family has also requested that the park be named "Mary Molina Community Garden," in honor of their mother, Mary.

Mary Molina was an avid gardener, particularly interested in creating community garden space, long before community gardens gained the prominence they now have. She was also a Long Beach schoolteacher and Regional President of the PTA, a role model of civic participation to her family and community.

Community gardens are an excellent way to increase green space in the city and to bring community members together in a healthful, enjoyable activity. They also raise awareness about the benefits of urban gardens, which can produce significant amounts of nutritious food for residents.

Recommendation:

Request that the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Commission, approve renaming this site "Mary Molina Community Garden".