



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

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www.LBParks.org



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best in the nation

December 15, 2016

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend the name C. David Molina Park to the Housing and Neighborhood Committee for the planned park located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Del Amo Blvd. And Oregon Ave. (District 8)

DISCUSSION

On November 15, 2016, Councilmember Al Austin, joined by Councilmembers Gonzalez, Andrews and Uranga, requested that the Mayor and the members of the City Council refer to the Parks and Recreation Commission a request to recommend that the planned park on the southwest corner of the intersection of Del Amo Blvd. and Oregon Ave. (Attachment A) be named after Dr. C. David Molina (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 has 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, C. David Molina Park, denotes the name of an individual. Dr. Molina was born in Yuma, AZ, in 1926 and studied education at San Diego State University. He began his teaching career in Yuma and later taught in Long Beach. He earned his medical degree from what would become the University of California, Irvine and set up a medical practice in Long Beach.

In 1962 he started the city's first intensive care unit at Pacific Hospital where he also served as the head of the emergency department for 21 years. He earned a grant to develop a paramedic system for Long Beach and trained the first city firemen who became paramedics. When Dr. Molina noticed that low-income, uninsured and non-English speaking patients were coming to the emergency room and not always getting the proper care or information, he opened a Long Beach clinic in 1980 that provided low-income individuals with a place to receive personalized health care. Two similar clinics were opened later that same year. Dr. Molina's clinics served Medi-Cal patients at a time when, as he noted "no one wanted Medi-Cal patients...no one else was interested". Given the lasting contributions of Dr. C. David Molina to the City of Long Beach and his legacy of providing critical medical services to underserved communities throughout the nation, it is fitting to consider naming the new park at Del Amo and Oregon after this healthcare pioneer who made his mark in Long Beach.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve the recommendation

Respectfully Submitted,



STEPHEN P. SCOTT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

APPROVED:



MARIE KNIGHT
DIRECTOR

MK:SS:RL/vhd

Att: A – Aerial of planned park at the southwest corner of Del Amo Blvd. and Oregon Ave.
B – November 15 City Council Agenda Item R-11


City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve
Memorandum
Councilmember Al Austin
Eighth District
R-11

Date: November 15, 2016

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Al Austin, Eighth District *al*
 Councilmember Lena Gonzalez, First District *lg*
 Councilmember Dee Andrews, Sixth District *DA*
 Councilmember Roberto Uranga, Seventh District *R*

Subject: Naming of Park at Del Amo Boulevard and Oregon Avenue

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Refer to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee the request for a recommendation to name the park at Del Amo Boulevard and Oregon Avenue, and to request them to consider naming it after C. David Molina.

BACKGROUND:

Groundbreaking is about to take place on a new 3.3-acre park at the southwest corner of Del Amo Boulevard and Oregon Avenue. We would like to request the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee to consider naming the new park after C. David Molina and make a recommendation to the City Council.

David Molina was born in Yuma, Arizona in 1926, and studied education at San Diego State University. He began his career as an elementary school teacher at the Yuma Indian School, and later taught in Long Beach.

He then earned his medical degree from the California College of Medicine, which later became UC Irvine, and set up a private practice in Long Beach.

In 1962, he started the city's first intensive care unit at Pacific Hospital, where he also served as the director of the emergency department for 21 years. He earned a grant to develop a paramedic system for Long Beach and trained the city's first firefighters to become paramedics.

Dr. Molina noticed that low-income, uninsured and non-English speaking patients were coming to the emergency room in need of general health care services. Without family doctors, the patients were not always getting the proper care or information.

In 1980, David Molina opened a clinic in Long Beach to provide low-income individuals and families with a place to get personalized health care. Two more clinics opened later that same year. Molina's clinics served Medi-Cal patients at a time when, as he noted, "no one wanted Medi-Cal patients...when no one else was interested."

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

November 15, 2016

Page 2

He founded Molina Medical Centers, and served as its president and chief executive officer. By 1994, Molina Healthcare was licensed as a health plan in California and had 100,000 members.

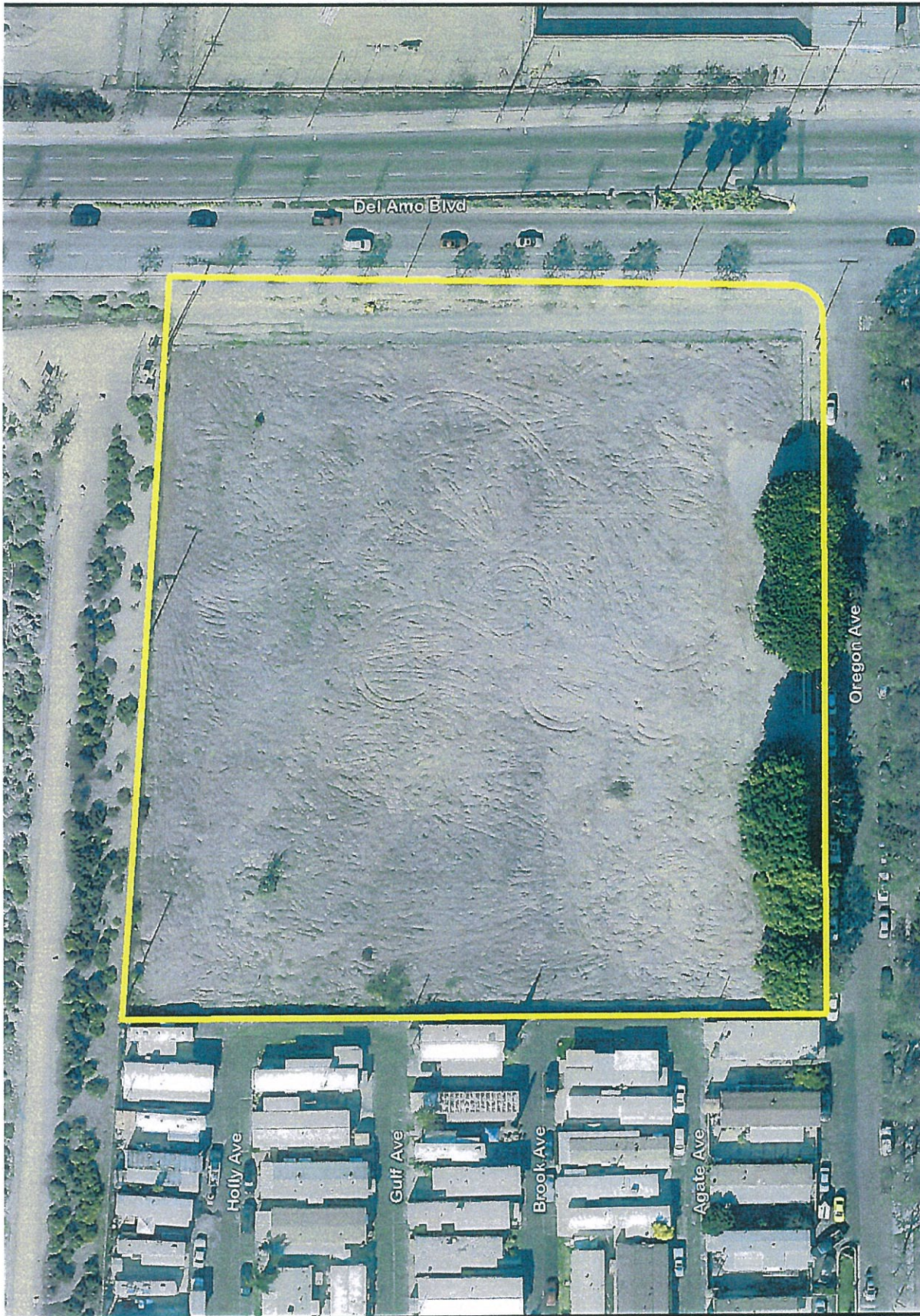
Dr. Molina passed away in 1996 at the age of 70, but his legacy continues. His children, Mario, John, Martha, Josephine and Janet, and the extended Molina family, continue to serve Long Beach in a number of fields and endeavors.

Today, Molina Healthcare is a Fortune 500 multi-state health care organization. It serves more than 5 million individuals and families who receive their care through Medicaid, Medicare and other government-funded programs in 15 states.

Molina Healthcare is still headquartered in Long Beach. The Molina children, who helped by sweeping the floors, stocking shelves and filing medical records in the original clinics, now run the company.

Given the lasting contributions of Dr. C. David Molina to the City of Long Beach and his legacy of providing critical medical services to underserved communities throughout the nation, it is fitting to consider naming the new park at Del Amo and Oregon after this healthcare pioneer who made his mark in Long Beach.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact with this request.



Attachment B
Planned Park at the Southwest Corner of
Del Amo Blvd. and Oregon Ave.

