

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



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December 20, 2018

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the Housing and Neighborhood Committee to re-name the Uptown Dog Park as the "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park." (District 8)

DISCUSSION

On November 13, 2018, Councilmember Al Austin 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 Uptown Dog Park as the "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park." (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.

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION December 20, 2018 Page 2

In accordance with this regulation, the name referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Gayle Carter, denotes the name of an individual. Since the opening of the Uptown Dog Park at Scherer Park in 2009, Gayle Carter became the unquestioned champion and leader of the Uptown Dog Park community. She organized the Friends of Uptown Dog Park to raise money for improvements at the dog park, including a bulletin board. She worked with City staff and the Council office on ideas to improve the dog park and better serve the dogs and their human companions.

Gayle organized numerous events to foster a strong sense of community around the dog park, including wiener dog races, potlucks, canine fashion shows, photos with Santa and arranged obedience training and agility classes at the Uptown Dog Park. She worked with Fix It Long Beach to hold spay/neuter clinics. She also helped with the establishment of dog parks at Jackson Park and Coolidge Park. Her compassion and determination endeared her with the animal community throughout Long Beach.

On September 7, 2017, Gayle Carter passed away of congestive heart failure. As the headline of her obituary in the Long Beach Post stated: "Always Everyone Before Her Self." Gayle helped those who were experiencing homeless who had trouble taking care of their animals, and organized fundraisers for pet owners that needed help and rescue efforts. Given the tremendous impact that Gayle Carter had on the Uptown Dog Park, and the compassion and support she provided to pet owners throughout Long Beach, it is fitting to honor her legacy by renaming the Uptown Dog Park as the "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park."

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

STEPHEN P. SCOTT DEPUTY DIRECTOR

BUSINESS OPERATIONS MANAGER

JADYS KAISER

MANAGER

COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES

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APPROVED:

GERARDO MOUET

DIRECTOR

GM:SS:GK:dr

Att: A – November 13 - City Council Agenda Item R-30

B - Aerial of location of the proposed "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park"

ATTACHMENT A



City of Long Beach Working Together to Serve

Memorandum
Councilmember Al Austin
Elahth District

R-30

Date:

November 13, 2018

To:

Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:

Councilmember Al Austin, Eighth District

Subject:

Recommendation for naming the "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park"

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Refer to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee the request to consider and make a recommendation on re-naming the Uptown Dog Park as the "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park."

BACKGROUND:

The Uptown Dog Park opened at Scherer Park in 2009. Since its opening, Gayle Carter became the unquestioned champion and leader of the Uptown Dog Park community.

She organized the Friends of Uptown Dog Park to raise money for improvements at the dog park, including a bulletin board. She worked with City staff and the Council office on ideas to improve the dog park and better serve the dogs and their human companions.

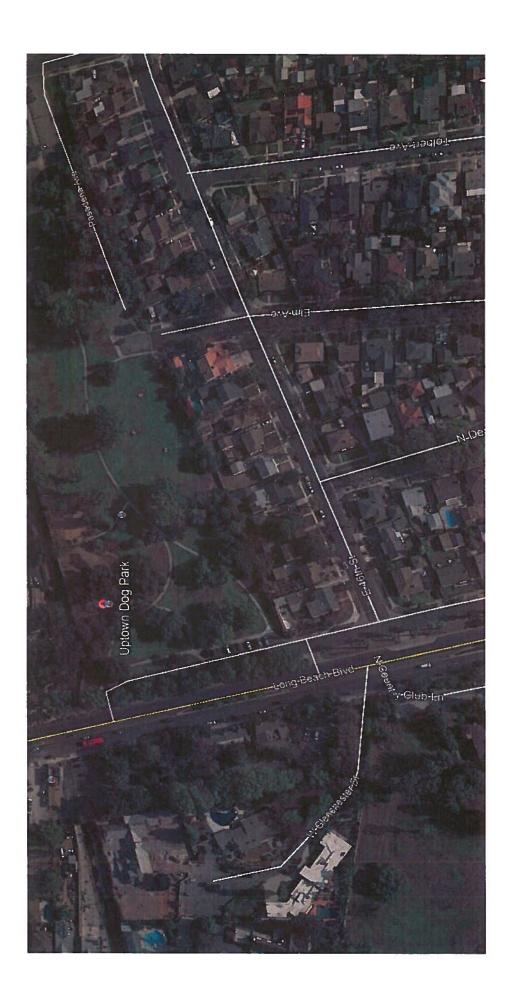
Gayle organized numerous events to foster a strong sense of community around the dog park, including wiener dog races, potlucks, canine fashion shows, and photos with Santa. She also arranged for obedience training and agility classes to be offered at the Uptown Dog Park. Gayle worked with Fix It Long Beach to hold spay/neuter clinics. She also helped with the establishment of dog parks at Jackson Park and Coolidge Park. Her compassion and determination endeared her with the animal community throughout Long Beach.

Gayle was tenacious in her efforts, but her passion for the dog park community and caring for pets and people was infectious. She worked to make all users of the dog park feel welcome, but also ensured that they understood their responsibilities as pet owners. She was generous in helping others when they or their pets were in need.

Gayle Carter passed away on September 7, 2017 of congestive heart failure. As the headline of her obituary in the Long Beach Post stated: "Always Everyone Before Her Self." Gayle helped those who were experiencing homeless who had trouble taking care of their animals, and organized fundraisers for pet owners that needed help and rescue efforts.

Given the tremendous impact that Gayle Carter had on the Uptown Dog Park, and the compassion and support she provided to pet owners throughout Long Beach, it is fitting to honor her legacy by renaming the Uptown Dog Park as the "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park."

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact would be minimal to update the park signage and City listings.



ATTACHMENT B

Proposed "Gayle Carter Uptown Dog Park" in Scherer Park