

October 21, 2021

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to consider renaming El Dorado Park West Senior Center the "Dr. Thomas Clark Community Center" in recognition of the legacy, contributions and services of former Long Beach Councilman and Mayor, Tom Clark, and forward this item to the City Council for approval. (District 5)

DISCUSSION

On September 28, 2021, the Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee approved a recommendation submitted by Committee Chair Supernaw, to consider renaming the El Dorado Park West Senior Center, the "Dr. Thomas Clark Community Center" (Attachment A).

Tom Clark was the consummate public servant. After two years in the military, he enrolled at Long Beach City College where he excelled in academics and was a Track and Field athlete. In the early 1950's he earned BS, OD and MS degrees at the University of California Berkeley then opened his optometric practice in Los Altos in 1953.

Prior to being elected to public office, Tom Clark served on the Recreation Commission (Commission). In the early 1960's, Dr. Clark led the Commission's effort to secure a bond for the purchase of the land that is now El Dorado Park West. It is safe to say that without his efforts, the open space we enjoy today would have been developed for commercial purposes.

In 1966, he was elected to the Long Beach City Council for the Fourth District where he served for 30 years (1966-1996) including three terms as Mayor of Long Beach (1975-1978, 1978-1980 and 1982-1984). In 1981 – 1982, he served as president of the League of California Cities.

After Dr. Clark retired from the Long Beach City Council, he was elected to the Long Beach City College Board of Trustees for Area Five where he served for 16 years including several terms as Board President. During his tenure at Long Beach City College, he served as President of both the California Community College Trustees and the Community College League of California (2006). In 1976, he was inducted into the Long Beach City College Hall of Fame for his community leadership and in 2007 he was elected to the Long Beach City College Hall of Champions for his accomplishments as a Track and Field athlete. No one in Long Beach history has given more for a longer period than the Honorable Tom Clark.

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The City's Policy and Process for Naming of City-owned Land, Buildings, and Facilities Administrative Regulation (AR 8-7) provides the policy to guide the consideration of a naming request:

- 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 AR 8-7, Chair Supernaw's naming request is referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation will be transmitted to the full City Council for final confirmation, consistent with AR8-7.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost for fabrication and installation of signage is unknown at this time. If approved the Department of Parks Recreation and Marine will work with the Department of Public Works to obtain appropriate cost estimates for the signage. Funding is yet to be identified. Implementation of this recommendation is anticipated to result in a moderate impact to staff hours beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and a moderate impact to Parks, Recreation and Marine Department budget and City Council priorities.

SUGGESTED ACTION:


Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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NANCY VILLASEÑOR
MANAGER
PARK PLANNING & PARTNERSHIPS



GLADYS KAISER
MANAGER
COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES



HURLEY OWENS
MANAGER
MAINTENANCE OPERATION

APPROVED:



BRENT DENNIS
DIRECTOR

BD:SS:NV:GK:HO:VD

Attachment – September 28, 2021 Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee documentation.

ATTACHMENT A

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL
AND ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021
TELECONFERENCE, 2:00 PM**

Daryl Supernaw, Chair
Cindy Allen, Vice Chair
Al Austin, Member



FINISHED AGENDA & DRAFT MINUTES

GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL & ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM

CALL TO ORDER (2:00 PM)

At 2:00 pm, Chair Supernaw called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL (2:00 PM)

**Councilmembers Austin, Allen and Supernaw
Present:**

Also present: Amy Webber, Deputy City Attorney; Tamela Austin, City Clerk Specialist.

REGULAR AGENDA (2:01 PM)

1. [21-0986](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Government, Personnel & Elections Oversight Committee meeting held Friday, August 20, 2021.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Allen, seconded by Chair Supernaw, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Austin, Allen and Supernaw

2. 21-0987 Recommendation to receive Charter Commission appointments and reappointments pursuant to Section 509 of the City Charter and Section 2.03.065 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, and forward this item to City Council for approval.

Councilman Austin spoke.

Chair Supernaw spoke.

Vice Chair Allen spoke.

A motion was made by Member Austin, seconded by Vice Chair Allen, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Austin, Allen and Supernaw

3. 21-0988 Recommendation to consider renaming El Dorado Park West Senior Center the "Dr. Thomas Clark Community Center" in recognition of the legacy, contributions and services of former Long Beach Councilman and Mayor, Tom Clark, and forward this item to the Parks and Recreation Commission for additional discussion prior to forwarding to City Council for approval.

Chair Supernaw spoke.

A motion was made by Chair Supernaw, seconded by Member Austin, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Austin, Allen and Supernaw

4. 21-1039 eComments received for the Government, Personnel & Elections Oversight Committee meeting of Tuesday, September 28, 2021.

This Agenda Item was received and filed.

PUBLIC COMMENT (2:07 PM)

No members of the public addressed the committee.

ADJOURNMENT (2:07 PM)

At 2:07 pm, there being no objection, Chair Supernaw declared the meeting adjourned.

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City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Date: September 28, 2021
To: Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee Members
From: Daryl Supernaw, Chair, GPE Committee
Subject: Dr. Thomas Clark Community Center

RECOMMENDATION:

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FISCAL IMPACT:

This recommendation requests the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine in collaboration with the Department of Public Works to provide a fiscal impact report for City Council discussion.

-EXTERNAL-

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: csweavr@msn.com

Date: September 28, 2021 at 9:46:07 AM PDT

To: losaltoscan@gmail.com

Subject: Dr . Tom Clark. Long Beach's Acknowledgement to Dr Clark's accomplishments!

Darrel Supernaw

I highly recommend and support the over due acknowledgement of Dr Clark's long list of city improvements that were aimed at improving families lifestyles Thru parks , pools ,nature center, lakes. And will be glad to write a long List of reasons it is appropriate and long overdue!

He was truly a servant to our city without aspirations of Sacramento or more...

Sent from my iPhone