



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



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August 17, 2017

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and discuss possible recommended changes to the City Manager's Administrative Regulation 8-7 (Policy and Procedures for the naming of City-owned Land, Buildings and Facilities) before acting on the City Council's referral of the proposed naming of the senior meals program at Cesar Chavez Park (District 1)

DISCUSSION

On July 18, 2017, Councilwoman Lena Gonzales, joined by Mayor Robert Garcia and Councilmember Roberto Uranga requested that the Mayor and the members of the City Council refer to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee (Committee) the naming of the Senior Meals Program at Cesar Chavez Park, as the "Ruth Ricker Senior Meals Program" (Attachment 1). Ruth Ricker was an active resident of District 1 whose passion in life was to see a permanent senior meal program in City of Long Beach parks. Mrs. Ricker passed away in 2015. The City Council approved the request to refer this item to the Committee and further referred the proposed naming of the program to the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission).

At its regular monthly meeting to review proposed Commission agenda items, the Executive Committee of the Commission requested that an item be added to the August Commission Agenda relative to the City Manager's Administrative Regulation (AR) 8-7 "Policy and Procedures for the naming of City-owned Land, Buildings and facilities". The Executive Committee noted that there is currently no guidance in this A-R, or in other City of Long Beach (City) resources or policies, relative to the naming of programs in the City or in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (Department). The Executive Committee felt discussion and guidance was needed before acting on the proposed naming that was referred to the Commission.

Administrative Regulation (AR) 8-7 establishes formal policies to guide the City Council in considering (1) appropriate names for City-owned land, buildings and facilities; and (2) whether, and under what circumstances, such land, buildings, and facilities should be named or renamed in honor of individuals. AR 8-7 (Attached) states that in determining the names to be given to City-owned land, buildings and facilities, the City Council will give particular consideration to the following policy guidelines:

- Names incorporating the name of LONG BEACH where it is deemed important for civic or other reasons for a building or facility to be identified with the City.
- Names which have recognized geographic, topographic or historical significance associated with Long Beach. In assessing this type of name, the City Council will be guided by recommendations from such bodies as the Planning Commission, the Cultural Heritage Commission and the Long Beach Historical Society.
- City owned land, buildings and facilities may be named after individuals or families who have donated the land or funds for the capital project, particularly if such naming is set forth as a condition of the donation.
- City-owned land, buildings and facilities may be named in honor of persons who have served the nation, the State of California and/or the City of Long Beach in an exceptional and distinguished manner; and where such action is warranted by a contribution or service which is deemed to be of major significance.
- City-owned land, buildings and facilities will not normally be named after living persons unless the City Council deems it appropriate to take such action on the basis of a significant contribution, monetary or otherwise, which warrants a deviation from this policy guideline.
- The naming of City-owned land, buildings and facilities in honor of deceased persons shall generally not take place until one year after their deaths, unless the City Council determines that there are overriding considerations for deviating from this policy guideline. This particular policy guideline is not intended in any way to reflect on the merits of any deceased individual who may have been a prominent civic leader. However, it is felt appropriate to establish such a waiting period to ensure that an individual's accomplishments or contributions will stand the test of time; and that decisions shall not be made on an emotional basis immediately following a person's death.
- The names of City-owned land, buildings and facilities shall not be named in honor of individuals when they have previously been named for other individuals.
- Wherever possible, names considered should not be those which have been overly recognized in the past.
- Names will be considered by the City Council, whether submitted by staff, City agencies, civic organizations, and/or the general public. The selection process may include, where deemed appropriate, a contest or competition, if it is felt that such an alternative would promote greater community-wide interest and participation.

The Executive Committee feels that more discussion about naming Department programs is needed before the Commission should act on the item referred to it by the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve the recommendation

MEMBERS OF THE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

August 17, 2017

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Respectfully Submitted,



STEPHEN P. SCOTT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



GLADYS KAISER
MANAGER
COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES

APPROVED:



MARIE KNIGHT
DIRECTOR

MK:SS:rl/vhd

Att: 1 - July 18 City Council Agenda Item R-28
2 - AR 8-7 Policy and Procedures on Naming City-owned Land, Buildings and facilities.