

August 18, 2022

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee for consideration of renaming a section of Channel View Park to Ashlee's Park in memory of Ashlee Armond and forward this item to the City Council for approval. (District 3)

DISCUSSION

On December of 2014, Ashlee Armond tragically died in a car accident at Channel View Park. She was 20 years old, living with her parents in a residence on the street near where she lost her life. Her loss has profoundly impacted her family and the community, and has inspired community work in her memory. Ashlee's dedication to helping the most vulnerable among us is the reason her father, Long Beach Police Officer Richard Armond, has committed his time to endless efforts to help people experiencing homelessness. She is also the inspiration for the charity that carries her name, Ashlee's Homeless Fund.

In recent months, there has been a concerted desire from the community members surrounding Channel View Park to rename a section of the park in memory of Ashlee for the positive mark she left on the community. The community has expressed its enthusiasm for the renaming in over 100 individual emails to the Third District Council Office and a lengthy Nextdoor.com post with over 500 supportive comments. Therefore, it is appropriate to refer this naming request to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee for their consideration.

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:

- 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.



MEMBERS OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

August 18, 2022

Page 2

- 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 a 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 that 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.

In accordance with AR 8-7, Councilwoman Price's naming request is referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation will be transmitted to the Government, Personnel and Elections Oversight Committee and then back to the City Council for final approval, consistent with AR8-7.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of a park flag sign is estimated at \$2,300, with the funding source yet to be identified. The requested action is anticipated to have a minimum impact on staff hours beyond the budgeted scope of duties and is expected to have minimum impact on existing City Council priorities.

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION


August 18, 2022

Page 3

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve the recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,



NANCY VILLASEÑOR
MANAGER
PARK PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

APPROVED:



BRENT DENNIS
DIRECTOR

BD:SS:NV:jc
Attachment A – AR8-7
Attachment B – Letters of Support