

July 11, 2019

City of Long Beach  
Council Member Supernaw  
333 West Ocean Blvd  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Council Member Austin,

I am writing to you today to support naming the new forward on renaming the new Main Library downtown as the Billie Jean King Main Library. This library is going to be the new crown jewel of the new Civic Center.

There are few people from Long Beach that have been as impactful to our country, sports and the LGBTQ+ community as Billie Jean King. She is a legend in her sport and as well as an advocate for gender equality. King is the only Long Beach native to ever been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor that can be given to an American citizen. She was incredibly influential in the passage of Title IX, which she advocated in Washington . Title IX, is important legislature giving women equal access to sports in schools, as well as pushing equality on the professional level.

As a board member at the LGBTQ Center, Past President of AIDS Food Store, as well as Harvey Milk Park Equity Plaza co-chair, I believe that renaming the library after Billie Jean King would create a very special place in our city where all people are welcomed with equity to a place to visit, learn and grow.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John A. Newell