



349 East South Street, Long Beach, CA 90805
(562) 294-6255
info@deforestpark.org

May 11, 2021

Re: Renaming of South Street Parkway to Pressburg Parkway

Dear Councilman Daryl Supernaw, Chair of Government, Personal and Elections Oversight Committee:

The South Street Parkway (Long Beach's first "pocket park" established in the 1990s) is located at the Northeast corner of South Street and Jaymills Avenue, which is within the boundaries of the DeForest Park Neighborhood Association. **The DeForest Park Neighborhood Association fully supports the renaming of the South Street Parkway to be renamed *Pressburg Parkway* in honor of Dan Pressburg.** Over the past 25+ years, Dan Pressburg has been an active advocate that provided time (over a thousand hours), dollars (in the thousands), hours of sacrifice and time away from family. This has translated into countless community meetings, neighborhood association meetings, city council meetings as well as county, state, and federal events. We would like to say that Mr. Pressburg is more than qualified for the renaming of the South Street Parkway and this as one of the people who helped organize maintain and establish The South Street Parkway and The DeForest Nature Trail. He helped establish, maintain, and promote the lot next to his historic home since 1998.

Pressburg's impact over the last 30 years, has been extraordinary for the City of Long Beach. He has taught adults English and older adults to read. Pressburg has planted approximately 375 trees across Long Beach in all council districts except Council District 5. In 1994, he was one of the original members of the Homeless Committee that established the Homeless Count. In 1995-96, he became a part of the Long Beach Historical Society and became a docent and writer for the downtown walking tour, the art tour, and the sunset walking tours. His children also became docents and did tours, too. He became a member of the Cultural Heritage Commission (1995) and helped with the establishment of 3 Historic Districts and additions, (Rose Park, Wilmore Drake, and Bluff Heights). He had an article published regarding the "Mansionization" of the California Heights. He assisted in getting the city, at the time to file historic homes and residences on the title, to accurately reflect historic districts and residences. He and another member of the Long Beach Historical Society created the "New Citizen's Welcome," a celebration at Rancho Los Cerritos acknowledging new American Citizens. He wrote the script for the historic landmarks for the Long Beach Marathon and received a key to the city in 1997. Pressburg also received two Preservation Awards of Merit; and his home, The Historic Long Beach Dairy and Creamery, was declared a landmark in 1994. In 1996-1997, he worked with the then City Manager, Jim Hankla, to help establish Carnival Cruise Lines that opened in 2000-2001. During this time, he was also one of the original members of the North Project Area Committee, member and Vice-Chair of the Central Area

Project Area Committee Vice-Chair (1998 -2009), and remained a member until they ended Redevelopment.

Pressburg has been recognized nationally for the work he has done. Below are some examples of the awards and activities for which he has been recognized:

- Assisted in the Salt Lake Neighborhood Award for Neighborhood Watch Social Neighborhood Award;
- Neighborhoods USA - NUSA (6th) - Better Balance Long Beach Neighborhood Award for reforming 14th Street Park (1st) 2009;
- Better Balance Long Beach, (NUSA) Social Neighborhoods Awards and National Grand Prize (2008-2009);
- NUSA, Better Balance Long Beach, (The Christmas Store) 20011-2012;
- US Army Award For Veteran's Affairs 2014, 2015 and recognition;
- 5 certificates from Assemblywoman and Assemblyman 2000-2001, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007;
- 6 Award State Senate Awards;
- 6 awards from the County of Los Angels;
- 18 Community awards and certificates from the following Districts, 1,2,3,4,6, 7,8,9. Mostly the 8th and 9th District;
- Press-Telegram Neighborhood Hero Award (3 times);
- Assemblymember Hall Man of the year twice and Senior of the Year;
- DeForest Neighborhood Award – Assemblymember;
- Restoration Award County of Los Angeles 2004;
- Governor's Award from Pete Wilson- 100 years of North Long Beach History at the Long Beach Dairy and Creamery 2003-4;
- Los Angeles County Award - 100 years of North Long Beach History at the Long Beach Dairy and Creamery 2003-4;
- Go Long Beach Award 2014;
- Numerous City Awards for Neighborhood Associations;
- 1998, 2000, 2002, 2003 North Long Beach Community Action Group;
- 1998 Community Development Award, Awards for the community Maintenance of the Nature Trail and South Street Parkway;
- Two volunteer awards recognizing 700 hours of Community Service 2003-4
- 1996 Golden Shield Award.

Sincerely,

Ryan Blazer
Acting Secretary
on behalf of DeForest Park Neighborhood Association
webmaster@deforestpark.org

cc: Mayor Robert Garcia, Vice Mayor Rex Richardson, Long Beach City Councilmembers