

Meeting Date: 05/03/18

Report Type: Discussion



**Youth, Parks, &
Community Enrichment
Report**

915 I Street, 3rd Floor
www.CityofSacramento.org

Title: Naming Boat Pond at William Land Park as the “Anne Rudin Peace Pond”

Location: District 4

Recommendation: Pass a Motion recommending that the City Council approve naming the boat pond at William Land Park as the “Anne Rudin Peace Pond.”

Presenter: C. Gary Hyden, Manager of Park Planning and Development, (916) 808-1949, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Department: Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Division: Park Planning and Development

Dept ID: 19001011

Attachments:

01 Description/Analysis

Submitted By:	C. Gary Hyden, Manager
Approved By:	Shannon Brown, Interim Director
Signature:	

Attachment 01 – Description/Analysis

Issue: Council Member Steve Hansen wishes to recognize prior Mayor Anne Rudin’s contributions to the City and the community by naming the boat pond in William Land Park as the “Anne Rudin Peace Pond.” Shannon Brown, the Interim Director of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment supports the recommendation. Review by the Parks and Recreation Commission is required under the Council adopted naming policy.

Policy Considerations: On February 26, 2008, City Council adopted Resolution 2008-112, establishing the City Facility Naming Policy. The policy contains guidance when naming City facilities. One of the guiding policies encourages facilities to be named for individuals or families that have contributed significantly to the community or the facility. Naming of a specific facility requires nomination by the community or Mayor and council members, review by the Department and the related commission, notification to the community, and approval by the City Council.

Economic Impacts: Not Applicable

Environmental Considerations: Not Applicable

Sustainability: Not Applicable

Commission/Committee Action: Not Applicable

Rationale for Recommendation: The Council Member Steve Hansen, former mayor Heather Fargo, and many other prominent members of the community wish to recognize former mayor Ann Rudin for her many contributions to the City of Sacramento.

Anne Rudin was first elected to the Sacramento City Council in 1971 – under a new City Charter section which provided for election of council members by districts and mayor at-large. She was the first woman to win election to the City Council in 20 years, and only the 3rd since the city was incorporated in 1921. She was re-elected twice. In 1983, against tough opposition, she became the first woman elected mayor in Sacramento. She was re-elected in 1987, serving until 1992 when she chose not to run, but to pursue public service in other ways.

While Mayor, she never shied away from controversial issues and some of her proudest accomplishments came from that position. She was a true leader and ahead of her time in many ways. Her positions have stood the test of time and her legacy continues. This will be the first public recognition of Mayor Anne Rudin’s legacy by the City of Sacramento. The William Land Park boat pond is an appropriate site to rename for Mayor Rudin for several reasons. First, this park was in her district and was the local park for the children she raised here in Sacramento. It is a regional facility which recognizes her regional role as mayor of Sacramento.

She and her late husband Dr. Ed Rudin were peace activists. Each August she participates in the August Moon event which commemorates the thousands of Japanese citizens who were killed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of WWII. Held annually on the William Land Park boat pond, the ritual features the traditional Toro Nagashi floating lanterns. She was also a strong supporter of the Sister City Program, and a member of Mayors for Peace.

As Mayor and as a Council Member, she took on citywide and progressive issues. Included in the background section of this report, is a summary of some of the many issues she worked on during her 21 years in office.

Financial Considerations: The cost of the facility sign is included in the project budget.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not Applicable

Background:

Highlights of the Legacy of Mayor Anne Rudin

Anne Rudin worked to protect the Sacramento River Waterfront from development along the levee and continued to pursue this interest when, as mayor, she organized Friends of the Sacramento River Greenway which continues to promote riparian greenway along the Sacramento River levee as part of current waterfront development.

She proposed changes in City policy regarding the method of granting trash hauling licenses, breaking up a monopoly that stifled competition and shut out small, one-truck businesses, that were mostly minority owned.

Anne also led the effort to establish a formal dispatch system to handle emergency ambulance Services, which at that time were provided by private companies. Ultimately, the City Council approved proposed changes which resulted in more efficient routing of emergency calls and equitable rates. In the 90s, the city fire department began to provide emergency ambulance service, with professionally trained paramedics on board.

One of her more controversial proposals, was a ban on smoking in public places. She worked with Group Against Smoking Pollution (GASP), and the Lung Association, along with two other elected former nurses, Sacramento County Supervisor Sandy Smoley, and council woman Lynn Robie. This became the foundation for a series of ordinances to follow, making Sacramento the primarily smoke free city we enjoy today.

She also stepped in to save the Sacramento Symphony during a contentious labor dispute. She brought the parties together and negotiated a successful end to their dispute. While outside of her responsibilities as mayor she saw it as necessary and did what was needed. The following from the June 28th, 1986 Sacramento Bee:

"Hoping to save the Sacramento Symphony, which on Tuesday abruptly canceled the 1986-87 season, Rudin said she is willing to serve as a 'facilitator' and try to work out a compromise between musicians and management. 'I would certainly do that before we'd allow the symphony season to go down the tubes,' Rudin said. 'I don't consider myself a mediator, but maybe I could be an interested third party, a facilitator.' "