

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

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December 7, 1999

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Request to Rename the Doolittle Park Site to 'Verano Creek Park'

LOCATION: North Sacramento, Council District 2

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the .40 acre parcel known as the Doolittle Park Site is renamed "Verano Creek Park".

CONTACT PERSON: Victor L. Edmisten, Parks Manager, 264-5336
Laura Westrup, Parks Analyst, 264-8117

FOR MEETING OF: December 7, 1999

SUMMARY:

The Parker Homes Neighborhood Association has approached the city with a proposal to rename a small, .40 acre undeveloped parcel currently known as Doolittle Park to 'Verano Creek Park'. The renaming of the park is being suggested to honor intermittent Verano Creek, which flows through this community, and for its Spanish translation to 'summer time'. A petition of support signed by a number of residents in the neighborhood was submitted to the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreation on October 7, 1999.

The Parker Homes neighborhood, an enclave of temporary World War II-era military housing, is in a largely isolated area of North Sacramento near McClellan Air Force Base. In recent years the community has formed a community association and has targeted this former apartment building site for a small play area.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:

The renaming of this undeveloped park was unanimously approved at the October 7, 1999 meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreation.

BACKGROUND:

Advocates for the development of the park site chose this former apartment building site located on Doolittle Street for the park, purchased for about \$20,000 in 1997 using Quimby funds, under direction of Council Member Kerth. The neighborhood group, along with volunteers from the neighborhood, including children and residents from a nearby mobile-home community are lining up to help. The Parker Homes neighborhood has suggested that a small play area for children be constructed. The park site is tentatively being scheduled for dedication Saturday, December 18, 1999 at 2:00 p.m.

For the past three years, volunteers from the Parker Homes Neighborhood Association have been collecting volunteer support and neighborhood commitment for the development of this small parcel on Nimitz Street at the (roughly) east end of Doolittle Street. The Parker Homes Neighborhood Association was formed in 1996 and community-oriented policing has improved public safety. Also in recent years, the city's redevelopment agency targeted funds to upgrade streets and improve infrastructure.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no financial considerations affiliated with the renaming of this park site.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no environmental considerations associated with this report.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

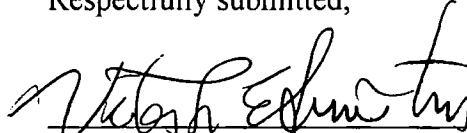
This action is consistent with the City's policy and procedure on naming parks (please see attached Exhibit A). The effort of the neighborhood group is consistent with City Council's emphasis on Neighborhood Revitalization and Enhancement and of encouraging community partnerships.

ESBD EFFORTS:

The Department is not purchasing materials or contracting for services, and therefore this section does not apply.

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Respectfully submitted,




Victor L. Edmisten, Parks Manager



Gary Little, Area Director

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



Robert P. Thomas
City Manager

POLICY FOR NAMING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

PURPOSE

To establish a formal policy which outlines the Department's procedures regarding the naming of existing and future parks and recreational facilities.

POLICY

- 1) Park sites should be named as soon after acquisition as possible to avoid the use of a temporary designation which becomes difficult to discontinue.
- 2) Parks located adjacent to schools shall be given the same name as the school.
- 3) Factors of importance in naming or renaming parks, recreational facilities and/or special features within a park (i.e. playgrounds, gazebos, picnic areas, groves of trees, lakes, ball fields, etc.) shall include, but not be limited to the following categories:
 - a) Names of living individuals or in memory of individuals who have gained stature in the Department, community, County, State or national affairs or have made significant contributions relative to the facility or area in question.
 - b) Names of civic groups or organizations which have made a substantial and significant contribution of land, money, or involvement toward the construction and/or improvement of a park or recreational facility.
 - c) Names which serve to identify by reference to distinct geographic, environmental or developmental features.
 - d) Names of subdivisions, communities, or access streets.
 - e) Names of historical significance.

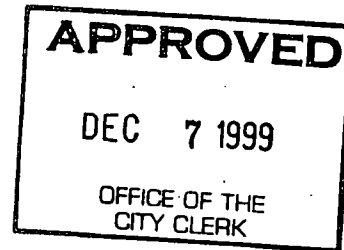
PROCEDURE

- 1) The Department of Parks and Community Services shall solicit names from the surrounding neighborhood and community groups as soon as the City has acquired title to the property or funds are approved by the City Council for financing the project.
- 2) Requests for naming or renaming parks or recreational facilities shall be submitted in writing to the Director of Parks and Community Services.
- 3) The Department will review the suggested names according to the policy established above and submit their recommendations to the Park and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee or appropriate advisory/support group for review and comment to the Director. The Director will forward recommendations to the City Council for approval.
- 4) The decision made by the City Council shall be final and shall be implemented by the adoption of a resolution naming or renaming the park and/or recreational facility.

RESOLUTION NO. 99-710

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____



ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RENAMING THE "DOOLITTLE PARK" SITE
TO "VERANO CREEK PARK"**

WHEREAS, Parker Homes subdivision in North Sacramento, District 2, is the home to many children of all ages. Children spend much time outside at play and are in need of a place to play that is safe from traffic as well as conducive to their good health through the physical exercise that a park can offer. There is no park near the Parker homes subdivision; the nearest park is more than a mile away.

WHEREAS, the residents of Parker Homes Neighborhood Association will work with the City of Sacramento to take the responsibility to acquire material donations and volunteer labor to build the park; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Parker Homes Neighborhood Association have suggested the name change in honor of the nearby Verano Creek.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Sacramento authorizes the City Manager to change the name of Doolittle Park to Verano Creek Park.

Acting Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____ 5