

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-06

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, creating a policy and procedure for the naming/renaming of a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area.

WHEREAS, the City Council is inspired by its own sense of history, progress and heritage to provide lasting remembrance of events and individuals; and

WHEREAS, the naming and renaming of a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area must reflect dignity and significance as well as honoring the past, present and future of the land or community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and community have sufficient occasion to name or rename a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area that a transparent process will be of use; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to establish criteria and procedures for the official naming/renaming of a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES as follows:

Section 1. That Resolution 2016-18 is hereby repealed.

Section 2.

A. The naming/renaming of a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area shall be in accordance with the procedures and criteria set forth below. City parks and other city facilities referenced in the procedures and criteria includes but is not limited to a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area. Once adopted, name changes should occur on an exceptional basis only. Permanent naming/renaming opportunities shall comply with this policy.

B. Naming Application Process

Any group, person, or organization may submit an application to name or rename a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area. The application is to be submitted to the City Manager. Applications should contain the following information:

1. Name of applicant;
2. Proposed name;
3. Background/support for proposed name;
4. Demonstrated community support for proposed name on a petition that includes not less than 300 signatures and residential address within the city;
5. Identification of interested/impacted stakeholders;
6. Description/Map showing location; and
7. If proposing to name/rename after an outstanding person, documentation of that person's community or financial contribution to the City, State or Nation's history.

Applications pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a \$250 fee. When the fee is added to the fee schedule, the fee schedule shall apply.

- C. Proposed naming information submitted to the City or referred by the City Council will be reviewed by the City Manager or designee, who shall then direct a process appropriate to the proposal.
 - 1. Such process shall most often involve a City community advisory board or committee as assigned by the City Manager or designee.
 - 2. Names shall be considered based on the criteria outlined below and with consideration of public input appropriate to the proposal. Public input solicited shall include appropriate notice to and communication with residents.
 - 3. The proposal shall be submitted to the City Council, who will review the recommendations, suggestions and public input, after which the City Council shall determine the name for public park, facility, street, open space or natural area. The City Council is not bound in any way by the proposal submitted. City Council review shall include adequacy of notice, communication with residents and composition of the committee.

- D. If the City Council determines that a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area should be named or renamed, the City may solicit suggestions for names from community organizations and individuals. All suggestions, whether solicited or independently offered, shall be acknowledged and considered.

- E. The following criteria shall be considered:
 - 1. The past, present and future history of the land or community. Such consideration should include the following:
 - a) It is in the best interest of the city and provides a worthy and enduring legacy for the city; and
 - b) The name reflects the significance of a feature and the mission and vision of the city; and
 - c) The name is appropriate to the location and will remain relevant as the city grows and changes.
 - 2. The individual or entity who has donated substantial monies or land or has been otherwise instrumental in the acquisition of the property.
 - 3. The articulated preference of residents of the neighborhood surrounding the public facility.
 - 4. Engenders a strong, positive image.
 - 5. Has broad public support.
 - 6. Outstanding individuals will be considered posthumously. Consideration will be given when the person was exceptionally dedicated or demonstrated excellence in service in ways that made a significant contribution to the land, community, park, or city department or the person risked his or her life to save or protect others. There shall be a lapse of at least thirty six (36) months between the date of the death of the person(s) or

of the event commemorated and the submittal of application naming or renaming of the public park, facility, street, open space or natural area; or at the discretion of the City Council.

7. When a public park, facility, street, open space or natural area is associated with or located near events, people, and places of historic, cultural or social significance: consideration will be given to naming the park and/or facility, after such events, people and places. This history may include its founders, other historical figures, Native American heritage, local landmarks, prominent geographical locations, and natural features.
8. A gift-related naming occurs when a donor makes a significant contribution that adds considerable value to the City of Lakewood. If the city benefits from the generosity of residents, businesses, organizations and foundations, the significance of the donation may warrant consideration for requests from either the donor or another party to acknowledge such a gift by naming. Decisions regarding such recognition are made on a case-by-case basis and will take into consideration the total cost of the project, the availability of other funds and the level of financial contribution. All gift-related naming will be documented by a written donor agreement. As a guideline, the threshold for considering the naming of an asset will include one or more of the following:
 - a) Land for the majority of the park was deeded to the City by the donor; and
 - b) Contribution of a minimum of 60% of the capital construction costs associated with developing the park and/or facility; and
 - c) Provision of a minimum 20-year endowment for the continued maintenance, operation and/or programming of the Asset.
9. Name changes will be subject to review that includes consideration of the original justification for the current name, the monetary value of prior contributions, and the rationale for changing the name. The naming/renaming process would follow all other steps in the naming application process.

The naming of physical entities is intended to be in place for the life of the specific physical entity. If, in the determination of the City Council, circumstances change so that the purpose for which the physical entity was established is significantly altered, past its life cycle or if the physical entity is no longer needed or habitable, they will determine an appropriate way to recognize the donor's naming gift in perpetuity. If the City and the donor(s) previously established a contract that provides a practicable course of action, then that action shall be followed.

10. The donation of land, facilities, or funds for the acquisition, renovation or maintenance of land or facilities, shall not constitute an obligation by the City to name the land and/or facility or any portion thereof after an individual, family or organization. The City retains sole discretion with regard to initiating the process to name or rename a park or facility and further, the City retains sole discretion to implement, modify or reject the name or rename recommended by the process.
11. As modifications are made to property over time, situations may occur where it is in the best interest of the city at the sole discretion of the city, to relocate, modify, or reallocate named city property. This is to insure that the original purpose of the naming and the donor's wishes, if built with private funds, are preserved as appropriate.

F. Naming/Renaming Process

The following steps shall be used as guidelines for consideration:

1. Refer completed application to appropriate staff or committee for review and recommendation;
2. Solicit public input, the purpose of which is to represent the broad range of demographics and interests of city residents;
3. Forward recommendation to City Council for review and consideration; and
4. Notify the applicant of the application status once the City Council has taken action.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

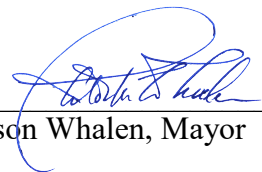
PASSED by the City Council this 6th day of June, 2022.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:




Briana Schumacher, City Clerk



Jason Whalen, Mayor

Approved as to Form:



Heidi Wachter, City Attorney