

Council Meeting of
August 10, 2010

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Services – Approve name for the park located on the Lomita Right of Way Corridor.

Expenditure: None

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council approve a name for the park located on the Lomita Right of Way Corridor.

FUNDING

Not applicable

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On April 14, 2010, the Parks and Recreation Commission opened the discussion on possible naming options for the future park on the Lomita Corridor site. Staff provided a summary of the project and showed a video of the proposed park. The Commission Chairperson then requested that the Commissioners and the public submit their suggestions in hopes of finding the perfect name for the park.

During the community input portion of the discussion, there were two naming requests made by the public. Those two requests were for *Joseph, Matthew, and Micah Park*, in honor of the three fallen soldiers from the South Torrance area, and *John Burt Hoffman Park*, in honor of the City's former Park Services Manager. There was also a request from the community that the students at the local schools be encouraged to submit their ideas. Staff sent "Name the Park" entry forms to the principals at Arnold and Seaside Elementary Schools, and Calle Mayor Middle School, which generated over 130 student suggestions.

Staff assembled all of the names that had been submitted, including those received during public comment at meetings, suggestions from the students, public e-mails, and from the Commissioners. The full list of names was provided to the Commission for discussion at the May 12, 2010, Commission meeting (Attachment A).

During the meeting two representatives from the public restated their requests to have the park named in honor of the fallen soldiers, and the former Park Services Manager. The Commission unanimously agreed to send the discussion to the Open Space Committee and requested that the Committee select five names to bring back to the Commission at the June meeting.

The Open Space Committee met on May 25, 2010, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. In addition to the full list of names, staff provided the Committee with background information on Park names and how they originated (Attachment B). The Committee then selected ten names for recommendation to the Commission. The ten names were:

Anza Breeze	Kathanza
Anzanita	La Caminar (the Walk)
El Estrecho (the Narrow)	Las Brisas (the Breeze)
El Portico (the Porch)	Seaside
Esperanza (Hope)	Seaside Ranchos

Each of the Open Space Committee members expressed how difficult it was to narrow down such an expansive list. They also reflected on why certain names were or were not chosen. It was a shared opinion that recognizing the fallen soldiers was indeed necessary, and hoped that a tribute could be incorporated into the park in some other manner. A copy of the minutes has been included (Attachment C).

The Parks and Recreation Commission met on July 14, 2010. The Commission reviewed the recommendation of the Open Space Committee, including the minutes from the meeting. After further discussion, and comments from the public, the Commission approved the following three names for submittal to City Council:

Esperanza (Hope)
Las Brisas (the Breeze)
Seaside

Throughout this process all meetings have been publicly posted and meeting notifications have been sent to the Seaside Ranchos Homeowner's Association for their continued assistance with the publicity of the project. Notification e-mails were also sent to those residents that had attended and/or spoke at the previous community meetings, or who had submitted their own ideas for the name of the park.

At this time, it is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council select one of the three names approved by the Commission. As mentioned above, all of the naming suggestions considered have been attached for your reference.

Respectfully submitted,

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION


Keri Gilbert, Chairperson

JOHN JONES
Community Services Director

By 
Jason Minter
Senior Business Manager

CONCUR:


John Jones
Community Services Director

NOTED:


LeROY J. JACKSON
City Manager

- Attachments: A) Full List of Naming Suggestions
B) City Park Name History
C) Minutes from the May 25, 2010, Open Space Committee Meeting
D) Minutes from the July 14, 2010, Commission Meeting

City of Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission

Naming Suggestions for the Lomita Corridor Park Project

Adventure Park	Friendly Park	Riviera Common
Aloha Park	Friendship Park	Roadrunner Park
Anita Park	Fun Park	Rosa Park
Anza Breeze Park	Golden Brick Park	Scouter Park
Anza Little Hill Park	Golden Tree Park	Sea Breeze Park
Anza Park	Green Grove Park	Sea-Anza Park
Anza St. Park	Green Park	Seabreeze Park
Anzack Park	Greenrise Park	Seaside Beach Park
Anzamita Park	Greenville Park	Seaside Dolphin Park
Anzanita Park	Groundsam Park	Seaside Heroes Park
Anzita Park	Heroes Park	Seaside Park
AnzKathlo Park	Heroes del Parque	Seaside Park of Lomita
Armed Forces Heroes Park	Jennewein Park	Seaside Ranchos Park
Arnold Park	John Burt Hoffman Park	Seaside Walk Park
Beach Park	Joseph, Matthew, and Micah Park*	Seasides Park
Best Friends Forever Park	Kathanza Park	Serenity Park
Best Friends Park	La Caminar Park (the Walk)	Shadow Park
Bindewald Park	La Corredor Park (Corridor)	Sierra Volcanic
Bobo Park	Las Brisas Park (the Breeze)	Sky Park
Breezeside Park	Little Hill Park	Sleepy Hollow Park
Breezy Fields Park	LoAnza Park	Sonya Park
Breezy Park	Logan's Alley	South Ranchos Park
Bright Tree Park	Lomanza Park	Southside Park
Bulldog Park	Lomitanza Park	Space Park
Butterfly Gardens	Love Park	Sparkly Park
Cabo de Calle Park	Memorial Park	Spartan Park
Cal-Shore Park	Military Heroes Park	Star Spangled City Park
Canyon City Park	Mommy and Me Park	Sunnyade Park
Catapillar Park	My Park	Sunnybrook
Champion Park	Nora Park	Sunset Park
Chicago Park	Ocean Memory Park	Sunshine Park
Club Park	Officer Steve Kroesen Memorial Park	Sunshine Park
Constitution Park	Pacific Park	Sur Madera Park (Southwood)
Corridor Park	Park Anza	The World of MM Jenuwein
Dolphin Park	Park Bon Anza	The Zebra Park
Dolphiny Park	Park Lomanza	Tiny Tree Park
Dream Park	Park Lomiza	Topiary Park
Dream Tree Park	People's Perfect Place	Torranza Park
El Estrecho Park (the Narrow)	Pine Hollow Park	Trails of Wilderness Park
El Portico Park (the Porch)	Planet Anza	Trees de Lomita Park
Esperanza Park (Hope)	Quiet Nature Park	Twilight Park
Evergreen Park	Ranger Park	West Anza Recreational Park
Fantastic Unforgettable Natural Park (FUN)	Rissa's Rock Park	Westside Park
Friend Park		Wonder Park
		Wonderlove Park

*In honor of fallen soldiers Joseph Anzack, Jr., Matthew Ferrara, and Micah Gifford

PARK NAMING

ATTACHMENT B

In March of 1965, the City Council assigned park-naming to the Parks and Recreation Commission with the approval of names to be done by the City Council.

(PARKS NOT NAMED AFTER STREETS/LOCATIONS OR SCHOOLS)

- Charles H. Wilson** Named after (INDIVIDUAL) former Congressman Charles H. Wilson who helped the city secure the former Naval Annex land.
- Columbia** Named after the Columbia Broadcasting Company which had a KNX radio tower on the property.
- De Portola** Named after Gaspar De Portola, military attaché to Father Serra. Nearby hill thought to be the site of an early California Mission. Name means “the door”.
- Discovery** Name reflects the park and community it serves as it was uniquely designed to serve people with disabilities and older adults that reside in the nearby senior citizen housing complex.
- El Retiro** Name means “the retreat”. No additional information prior to 1960. Park acquisition year is 1945.
- Guenser** Named after Henry M. Guenser, donor of park land. Officially adopted by City Council.
- La Paloma** Name means “the dove”.
- La Romeria** Named by Torrance school children that participated in a 1956 Park Naming Contest. Name means “the picnic”.
- Lago Seco** Name approved by City Council. Previously known as Walteria Lake sump. Name means “dry lake”.
- Los Arboles** Named by Torrance school children that participated in a 1956 Park Naming Contest. Name means “the trees”.
- McMaster** Named after former Fire Chief, John E. McMaster. Approved by City Council.
- Paradise** Named by Torrance school children that participated in a 1956 Park Naming Contest.
- Pequeño** Named in memory of Dr. John A. Lucas, former principal of South High School. Name means “small”.

PARK NAMING

(PARKS NAMED AFTER STREETS/LOCATIONS OR SCHOOLS)

Alta Loma	LOCATION
Delthorne	LOCATION
Descanso	STREET
El Nido	LOCATION
El Prado	STREET
Entradero	STREET
Greenwood	STREET/Former School
Hickory	HIGHWAY
La Carretera	LOCATION
Miramar	STREET
Osage	STREET
Pueblo	LOCATION
Riviera	LOCATION
Sea Aire	LOCATION
Sunnyglen	LOCATION
Sur La Brea	LOCATION
<i>Torrance</i>	LOCATION/NAMED BY CITY COUNCIL <i>CITY'S FIRST PARK</i>
Victor	LOCATION/Named after Victor Precinct
Walteria	LOCATION

Parks and Recreation Commission
Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes

Torrance Civic Center
West Annex Commission Meeting Room
3031 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

1. Call to Order at 6:10 PM
2. Present: Todd Hays, Commissioner
 Keri Gilbert, Commissioner

Staff: Robert Carson, Park Services Manager
 John Jones, Community Services Director
 Jason Minter, Senior Business Manager
3. Accept and File Affidavit of Agenda Posting:
 - Motion- Gilbert
 - Second- Hays
4. Discussion and Approval of Name Finalists for the Proposed Lomita Corridor Park Project
 - Commissioner Gilbert
 - Anza Breeze
 - Esperanza Park
 - Las Brisas Park
 - Seaside Ranchos Park
 - Commission Hays
 - El Estrecho Park
 - El Portico Park
 - Kathanza Park
 - La Caminar Park
 - Las Brisas Park (same as Commissioner Gilbert)
 - Seaside Park
 - Commissioner Gilbert
 - Due to public request would like to add: Anzanita Park
 - Community Services Director, John Jones
 - Confirmed that the Veterans Wall has each of the three fallen soldiers listed, however their branches of service are not listed.
 - Provided the Committee with background information on how other parks were named.

- Commissioner Gilbert
 - Historical Society is working on a project to recognize all names on the Memorial Wall.
- Commissioner Hays
 - I have been impressed by the local community's support for naming the park after our fallen heroes and other individuals. However, I believe that the park should not be named after them, especially since there are so many fallen soldiers represented on the city's Veteran's Wall on Torrance Blvd. I hope though, that the three soldiers can be honored in some other manner at the park.
- Commissioner Gilbert
 - I am very sympathetic to the views and passions of the residents who would like to see the park named for the three fallen soldiers, but I feel that this is not the most appropriate tribute.

5. Adjournment: 6:25 PM

- Motion- Gilbert
- Second- Hays

July 14, 2010

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION****1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Due to the absence of Chairperson Ning, Vice-Chairperson Robbins led the meeting.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Gilbert, Hays, Mayeda, and Vice-Chairperson Robbins.

Absent: Commissioner Taniguchi and Chairperson Ning.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones, Senior Business Manager Minter, Recreation Services Manager Brunette, and Park Services Manager Carson.

MOTION: Commissioner Gilbert moved to grant Commissioners Ning and Taniguchi excused absences for the July 14, 2010 Commission meeting. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Park Services Manager Carson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Gilbert moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**5A. MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2010**

MOTION: Commissioner Mayeda moved to approve the June 9, 2010 Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Gilbert seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Taniguchi and Chairperson Ning).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7A. CONTINUE DISCUSSION ON NAMING OPTIONS FOR THE LOMITA CORRIDOR PARK PROJECT

Senior Business Manager Minter reviewed the material of record and recommended that the Commission select a short list of names and explanation for recommendation to the City Council. He encouraged Commissioners to attend the August 10, 2010 meeting when City Council will consider this item. He informed them that on July 13, 2010 City Council awarded the construction contract, that the start date for construction is scheduled for August 2, 2010, and the community tile workshop is scheduled for August 14, 2010 at Sea Aire Golf Course.

June Lee, Vanderhill Road, stated that she went door to door in the area and found that residents did not feel there was much Spanish influence in the neighborhood and that most expressed support for naming the park in honor of the three fallen soldiers. She noted that a name with "Seaside" in it seemed to be acceptable, but pointed out that Seaside Ranchos is the name of a housing tract. She stated that it would be honorable to have the soldiers' stories told in tiles.

Vice-Chairperson Robbins requested that Commissioners state three names they would recommend.

Commissioner Hays recommended Esperanza Park, Las Brisas Park, and Seaside Ranchos Park.

Commissioner Mayeda recommended Seaside Ranchos Park, Seaside Park, and Las Brisas Park.

Commissioner Gilbert recommended Esperanza Park, Las Brisas Park, and Seaside Park.

Vice-Chairperson Robbins recommended Esperanza Park and Seaside Park.

MOTION: Commissioner Mayeda moved to forward the names Esperanza Park, Las Brisas Park, and Seaside Park for consideration for the Lomita Corridor Park Project. Commissioner Gilbert seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Taniguchi and Chairperson Ning).

Senior Business Manager Minter shared an article from the May 31, 2010 edition of Sports Illustrated regarding Andy Ferrara, brother of Matthew Ferrara.

7B. CITY BUDGET UPDATE

Senior Business Manager Minter reported that City Council adopted the budget on June 15, 2010 and reviewed Community Services Department budget reductions, revenue increases, and proposed reductions/enhancements not accepted for Fiscal Year 2010-11 included in Attachment A. He noted that the Rose Parade Float was funded with one time money through 2012 and that City Council requested studies on the "General Fund Subsidy to the Parks and Recreation Enterprise Fund" as well as Non-Resident Fees. He stated that the budget for publishing and mailing of the Torrance Seasons was reduced by \$29,000.