



City of Grass Valley
City Council
Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Approve Resolution 2025-09 Renaming the road through Memorial Park to Lou Conter Way

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That the City Council approve Resolution 2025-09 naming of a street within Memorial Park in Grass Valley, CA, in honor of Lou Conter, in recognition of his distinguished military service and contributions to the nation and community.

Prepared by: Tim Kiser, City Manager

Council Meeting Date: 04/08/2025

Date Prepared: 04/03/2025

Agenda: Administrative

Background Information: Lou Conter (1921-2024) was a highly decorated U.S. Navy veteran and a longtime Grass Valley resident. At the time of his passing, he was the last surviving crew member of the USS Arizona, which was tragically lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. On that fateful day, he courageously aided wounded shipmates and helped evacuate those who were blinded, burned, or injured. In the aftermath of the attack, he assisted with recovery efforts and continued serving his country with distinction.

Following Pearl Harbor, Conter's military career spanned World War II and the Korean War. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroic role in rescuing 219 Australians in New Guinea. He later served as an intelligence officer and advisor to Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson, and played a pivotal role in the development of the Navy's Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) training program. Among his many honors, he received the Navy Commendation Medal and was the first recipient of the USS Arizona Medal of Freedom.

Naming a street in Memorial Park after Lou Conter is a fitting tribute to his extraordinary service and heroism, ensuring that his sacrifices and contributions are remembered for generations to come. Memorial Par

Honoring Lou Conter by naming a street in Memorial Park aligns with the City of Grass Valley's commitment to recognizing distinguished community members and military heroes. Staff recommends that the City Council approve this initiative.

Council Goals/Objectives: The execution of this action attempts to achieve the following Strategic Goals - Community and Sense of Place.

Fiscal Impact: The cost of signage and minor administrative updates is expected to be minimal and will be covered under the city's existing budget for park maintenance and improvements.

Funds Available: Yes

Account #: 100-503-51020

Reviewed by: City Manager

Attachments:

- Resolution 2025-09 Approving the Naming of the Street through Memorial Park from Oak Street to Race Street as "Lou Conter Way"
- Exhibit A - Location Map

Exhibit A - Location Map

Proposed Lou Conter Way in Memorial Park (Green Highlighted Section)

