



## **CITY OF MILPITAS AGENDA REPORT (AR)**

<b>Item Title:</b>	<b>Consider Community Member Request to Rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to “Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park Jr. Park of Sunnyhills”</b>
<b>Category:</b>	Consent Calendar-Community Services and Sustainable Infrastructure
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	2/4/2020
<b>Staff Contact:</b>	<b>Renee Lorentzen, 408-586-3409</b>
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Approve Request from a Community Member to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to “Albert Augustine Memorial Park Jr. of Sunnyhills”.

### **Background:**

City Staff received a request from resident Henry Nichols to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to Sunnyhills Augustine Memorial Park. Per the current City Street, Park and Facilities Naming Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), the request shall be on an agenda to receive public comment, and when renaming a park, the surrounding neighborhood shall be notified. The SOP's further detail that “Parks and facilities named after individuals shall not be changed unless it is found that because of the individual's character the continued use of their name would not be in the best interest of the community.” As the request did not include the removal of the name of Mr. Augustine, the item was agendized at the January 6, 2020 Parks, Recreation and Community Resources Commission (PRCRC) to hear public comment and make recommendation to City Council for final consideration.

### **Analysis:**

Per the SOP, notification postcards were mailed to the Augustine Park neighborhood, as well as targeted outreach conducted on City social media outlets, including Nextdoor, to notify the park neighborhood of the requested park name change. City staff also discussed the proposed park name change request with the Albert Augustine Jr. family, who is still located in Milpitas.

At the January 6, 2020 PRCRC meeting, members of the public, including park name change requestor, Henry Nichols and Augustine family members, provided comment to the PRCRC in support of a proposal to change the name of Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to “Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park of Sunnyhills”.

The names of Albert Augustine Jr., and Sunnyhills carry historical significance for Milpitas. Mr. Augustine was a leader of the African American community in Milpitas, living in Sunnyhills and working at the Ford Plant. He was a Planning Commissioner and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Commissioner, and started the monthly Sunnyhills Breakfast event, which is still active. The Sunnyhills Neighborhood was the first planned racially integrated neighborhood in the US, drawing national attention.

The PRCRC voted to recommend the City Council consider approval of the request from a community member to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to “Albert Augustine Memorial Park Jr. of Sunnyhills”.

### **Policy Alternatives:**

**Alternative 1: Do not approve the request to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to “Albert Augustine Memorial Park Jr. of Sunnyhills”**

Pros: This alternative keeps the current park name intact and requires no additional City resources to purchase and install a new park sign and update public materials with the new park name.

Cons: Not approving the request to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park, disregards the community member and Augustine family consensus on the renaming request.

Reason not recommended: Not approving the request to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park, disregards the community member and Augustine family consensus on the renaming request.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The cost to purchase a new Park Sign is \$2,700. Installation costs including the removal of the old sign is approximately \$300, for a total fiscal impact of \$3,000. There is sufficient funding in the Public Works Maintenance Supplies budget to cover these costs.

**Recommendation:**

Approve Request from a Community Member to rename Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park to “Albert Augustine Memorial Park Jr. of Sunnyhills”.

**Attachments:**

Naming Application

PRCRC January 6, 2020 Unapproved Minutes