

MEMO



To: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
From: Zoe Mombert, Assistant to the City Manager
Date: April 30, 2024
RE: Street Naming Convention

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee has been discussing street naming conventions for a number of months. The project is past the original deadline provided by the Engineering and Planning divisions. The project, which is intended to have the DEI committee recommend the street naming convention for the new Town Center area, needs to be complete no later than September 2024. The committee has discussed leaders and natural resources as options but has struggled to develop a list of leaders.

At the April 2024 regular committee meeting, Member Wilde suggested having criteria for the leaders and offered the Corvallis School District building renaming process as an example (attached). ***If the committee intends to select criteria, this must occur at the May meeting*** to allow time for names to be submitted by the June meeting. The city will conduct research from July – August in order to have a list of names and supporting information to the committee for review and decision at the DEI Committee’s September 2024 meeting.

Staff suggestions for consideration based on the Corvallis School District Renaming Criteria:

- 1: Street Names and Park Names should inspire community members.
- 2: Name reflects social justice commitment to intentionally disrupting racism, genderism, ableism, and other socially unjust biases (person, place, thing). Additional weight should be given to figures who valued and worked for social justice in their lives.
3. Women who made inspirational contributions during their lives should be given additional weight in recommendations to remedy the lack of representation of women’s contributions to the community.
4. Local Indigenous people who made inspirational contributions during their lives should be given additional weight in recommendations to remedy the lack of representation of indigenous peoples’ contributions to the community.

After the criteria is selected, committee members will need to gather any additional names to be considered and submit them to staff to be considered by the committee in June for further review.
