CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
AGENDA SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

AGENDA DATE: February 7, 2023

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

City Representative Alexsandra Annello, 212-0002

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: District 2

STRATEGIC GOAL: (Goal 4: Enhance El Paso's Quality of Life through Recreational, Cultural & Educational Environments)

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include $ amount if applicable.

Discussion and action on a resolution to waive the requirement of the Park Naming/Changing Guidelines following an event of historical or cultural significance, and hereby approves the naming of the Grandview Senior Center located at 3134 Jefferson Avenue as the "Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview."

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?

Applicant Julie Kallman, working with District 2 Office of Representative Alexsandra Annello, gathered sufficient signatures to re-name the new Grandview Recreation Center after Mr. Wayne Thornton, a great contributor to our community and our youth. Representative Annello is asking for Council action to wave the requirement of re-naming policy to only allow for non-living individuals and approve the application to rename the Grandview Recreation Center to the "Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview." A recreation center is currently under construction on the property to allow this center to become a multi-use complex.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

N/A

********************REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION********************

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Park Naming/Changing Guidelines "Guidelines" state that the City Council may waive the requirements of the Guidelines following an event of historical or cultural significance; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Thorton has served his community through his advocacy and engagement with the City of El Paso Parks Department for 42 years, retiring in 2020 as the Marketing and Special Programs Director where he developed countless events that changed the lives of children, seniors, and our community at large; and

WHEREAS, many of Mr. Thornton's creations still exist today like; Gus & Goldie Learn to Swim program, Art in the Park, Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, and he established partnerships with McDonald's, Prices Creameries, UTEP, and the Sun Bowl Association to feature all the amazing work happening at the El Paso Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thornton was also instrumental in the success of Midnight Basketball, a project for at-risk youth with the Junior League of El Paso during the 1990s,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Council waives the requirement of the Park Naming/Changing Guidelines following an event of historical or cultural significance, and hereby approves the naming of the Grandview Senior Center located at 3134 Jefferson Avenue as the Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview.

APPROVED this ____ day of February 2023.

CITY OF EL PASO

_____
Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Kristen L. Hamilton-Karam
Senior Assistant City Attorney

23-1019-397 | 1228064 | KHK
Resolution Park Naming Guidelines

Request for Support for the renaming of Grandview Senior Center

- Initiative to rename Grandview Senior Center to:
  Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview, in honor of the living legacy of kindness, goodwill and humanitarianism Mr. Wayne Thornton has left for our community.
- Grandview Senior Center:
  A recreation center is currently under construction on the property to allow this center to become a multi-use complex. It would be the perfect location for a commemoration of Mr. Thornton's rich history of benevolence to our city and to the El Paso Parks and Recreation Department.
  This center is located at: 3134 Jefferson Avenue, 79930
- Why Wayne Thornton?
  Wayne was been a beloved employee of El Paso Parks and Recreation for 42 years, from 1978 until his retirement in 2020. During those years he served as the programming director at Lincoln Center and later, as the Marketing and Special Promotions Director where he developed countless events that changed the lives of children, seniors, and our community at large. So many of his creations still exist today like; Gus & Goldie Learn to Swim program, Art in the Park, Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, and athletic competitions for local boys and girls. He established partnerships with McDonald's, Prices Creameries, UTEP, and the Sun Bowl Association to feature all the amazing work happening at the El Paso Parks and Recreation. He was also instrumental in the success of Midnight Basketball, a project for at-risk youth with the Junior League of El Paso during the 1990s. Wayne is a magnanimous, selfless El Paso ambassador who never stops seeking ways to help others.
- Who is leading this effort?
  Wayne has touched so many, in so many ways, and there are dozens of his peers, former co-workers, fellow volunteers and generations of kids who participated in the sporting events he created, who want to see him honored with his name on an El Paso Parks and Recreation center. Points of contact on this application are:
  1. Jose "Joe" Rodriguez, El Paso Parks and Recreation Assistant Director, retired
  2. Tracy Novak, El Paso Parks and Recreation Director 2013-2020
  3. Julie Kallman, Founding Chair Midnight Basketball, Junior League of El Paso, 1993-1995

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Suggested Name: Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview

List eligibile members of the public who support the nomination:
Include name, address, telephone number and signature of fifty (50) individuals, ages 18 years or older who live within a mile radius of the park facility.

Name	Address	Phone Number	Signature
Margarita Valenzuela	[redacted]		
* Margie T. Herrera			
Annette Aragon			
Vanessa Aguilar			
ABEL ARAUJO			
ABEL ARAUJO			
Consuelo Loy			
Consuelo			
* [illegible]			
* JOSE CASTAÑON			
Guadalupe Castañón			
ANA MARIA DIAZ			
Sabina ADAM			
Nicolaus Juarez			
VICTOR J. DIAZ			
MARIA JUDITH FLOOD			
Erica DeLuca			
Maria Rubino			
[illegible] - Garnet Perez	3301 Jackson Ave	915-244-1914	[illegible]

Citizen Support

Suggested Name: Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview

List eligibile members of the public who support the nomination:
Include name, address, telephone number and signature of fifty (50) individuals, ages 18 years or older who live within a mile radius of the park facility

Name	Address	Phone Number	Signature
Irene Mick	[redacted]		
Aarón Vera			
Joaquin Moncada			
Lucy Lucero			
Elsa Trejo			
Joshua Acevedo			
- Sylvie Domingeaz			
- Nelly Noriega			
- Jesus Ramirez			
- [illegible]			
Sergio Rodriguez			
* Judy Lugo			
Blanca Cervantes			
- Margarita Guille			
- Diana De La Cruz			
- Rocio de la cruz			
* Luis Mora			

Accor. Sim

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Suggested Name: Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview

List eligibile members of the public who support the nomination:
Include name, address, telephone number and signature of fifty (50) individuals, ages 18 years or older who live within a mile radius of the park/facility.

Name	Address	Phone Number	Signature
Olivia Hdz	[redacted]		
Jose R. Silva			
Jorge Fernandez			
Jaime Carrillo			
VERONICA BORREGO			
Raquel Lopez			
Magdalena Dominguez			
DANIEL PARADA			
Ana Hidalgo			
Alex Mancilla			
Carmen Nava			
JOSEFINA SANCHEZ			
Jesus C. Granados			
KENNETH B. BELL			
Omar Castañeda			
Edgar Telle			
GUILLERMO Hdz			
Gerardo Macias			
Ma Luisa Da			
Hector Hernandez			

Citizen Support

PARK NAMING/CHANGING FORM

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Suggested Name: Wayne Thornton Community Center at Grandview

List eligibile members of the public who support the nomination:
Include name, address, telephone number and signature of fifty (50) individuals, ages 18 years or older who live within a mile radius of the park/facility.

Name	[redacted]
Ref Oscar	[redacted]
Maria D.	[redacted]
Yolanda Mendiola	[redacted]
Sonia Lopez	[redacted]
PABLO MONKEYO	[redacted]
Esperanza Mo	[redacted]
Esperanza Mo	[redacted]
Alfredo Rodriguez	[redacted]
Minerva Ortega	[redacted]
Salvador Carre	[redacted]
Isaias Botello	[redacted]

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