

Agenda Report

DATE: February 11, 2008

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: NAMING A TRAIL SEGMENT IN THE CENTRAL ARROYO SECO
"THE TAD WILLIAMS TRAIL"

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council approve naming an existing trail segment in the Central Arroyo Seco in honor of Charles "Tad" A. Williams .

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

At its regular meeting of February 5, 2008, the Recreation and Park Commission unanimously recommended the City Council name the trail in the Central Arroyo Seco and identified in this report, in honor of Charles "Tad" A. Williams.

BACKGROUND

The request to name the existing eastern trail, immediately north of the Colorado Street bridge in the Central Arroyo Seco, has been made by Ms. Liz Blackwelder, a longtime Arroyo Seco equestrian.

In 1969, high winter storm waters washed out 900 feet of trail on the east side of the streamcourse, heading north from Pasadena's Lower Arroyo, making this stretch just north of the check dam, known as "the slime slide" under the Colorado Street Bridge, impassable. For nearly ten years trail users were forced to detour through the area's streets on pavement slippery for horses, or constantly face trail closures when flood waters got treacherous.

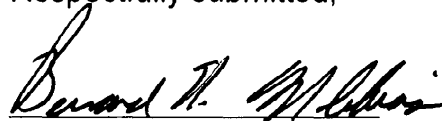
In 1979, Equestrian Trails Inc. - Coral 2, a local equestrian organization, received permission from the City to use volunteer efforts to repair the trail. Tad Williams, of a locally well known horse stable owning family and a developer in his own right, contributed \$10,000 worth of work (labor, equipment, and materials) to rebuild this important stretch of trail. Using his own manpower, earth-moving equipment and boulders that were trucked in at Mr. Williams' expense, this stretch of trail was rebuilt above the stream to withstand any future inundation and stands as seen today.

Item II (d) of the Public Parks and Recreation Facility Naming Policy provides for use of an individual's name, if such person "has made a significant contribution to the community, country, state, or the field of parks and recreation." Staff finds that the request is consistent with the established policy. If approved, the trail name will be displayed at the beginning and end of this trail, directly below the Colorado Street Bridge at the "slime slide" check dam, north to the concrete wall under the now existing 134 freeway bridge, on a sign or trail monument (consistent with the Arroyo Seco Design Guidelines) and documented on appropriate maps and records.


FISCAL IMPACT

The subject trail is already in existence. The only funds needed to implement the proposal to name this existing trail will be the cost of two plaques and the staff time to design, fabricate and install the plaques. These costs are estimated to be less than \$1500 and can be absorbed within the existing operating budget for the Arroyo Seco.

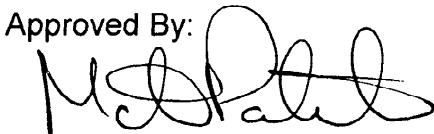
Respectfully submitted,


BERNARD K. MELEKIAN
City Manager

Prepared by:


Rosa Laveaga, Arroyo Seco Project Supervisor
Parks and Natural Resources Division

Approved By:



Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works