

# Agenda Report

October 24, 2022

TO:

Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM:

Parks Recreation and Community Service Department

SUBJECT:

NAMING OF THE NEW PARK AND THE ASSOCIATED TRAIL.

**LOCATED AT 1410 WIERFIELD DRIVE** 

## RECOMMENDATION FROM THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1. Find that the proposed action of naming a City park not a "project" as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Section 15378(b)(4) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, is not subject to environmental review; and
- 2. Approve that the new park located at 1410 Wierfield Drive be named "Annandale Canyon Preserve" and the associated trail be named "Yayaaytnga Trail."

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2009, the City acquired the undeveloped properties known as Annandale Canyon Estates for the purpose of preserving it as open space. This open space includes 20.63 acres in Annandale Canyon located within the San Rafael Hills in the western portion of the City, and just north of the 134 freeway and the Annandale Golf Course.

In February 2022, the Public Works Department completed construction of a trail in Annandale Canyon. Located at 1410 Wierfield Drive, new amenities include a ½ mile pedestrian trail leading to a beautiful scenic overlook, six parking spaces, one bench near the beginning of the trail, and one at the overlook.

Consistent with the City's *Public Park and Recreational Facility Naming Policy* (see Attachment A), the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCS) initiated a public outreach effort to solicit public input for the park's official name. All 82 property owners within a 1,000 foot radius of the new park site received a postcard with a link to a park name survey. The postcard also provided a telephone number if the property owner did not wish to respond electronically. Public input for a preferred name was limited to one submission per IP address.

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On July 11, 2022, an online survey was posted on the City's website asking residents to propose names for the new park based on the Policy's naming criteria outlined below:

- Geographical location of the park or facility;
- Natural or geological features proximate to the park or facility;
- Cultural or historical significance to the City or surrounding neighborhood; or,
- Name of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the community, country, state or the field of parks and recreation.

At the close of the two-week period, 12 submissions were received. The submitted names were vetted for adherence to the City's naming policy.

The suggested names are as follows:

Suggested Name	# of Votes
Wierfield Trail	6
Annandale Canyon Trail	2
Douglas Kranwinkle Trail	1
Glen Oaks Park	1
Irresponsible Trail*	1
Quarter Million Dollar Boondoggle Park*	1
Total	12

<sup>\*</sup> Suggestion not consistent with naming policy criteria

On August 9, 2022, PRCS presented a report to the Recreation and Parks Commission requesting they recommend to the City Council a name for the new park. The report also detailed the public outreach process and public input received for naming of the park. Following discussion, the Commission proposed the name Annandale Canyon Preserve but wanted this item to return to a future Commission meeting as they wanted to identify and recommend a Native name for the trail. At the October 5, 2022 Commission meeting, "Yayaaytnga" (pronounced Ya-yīte-na), was formally recommended as the trail name.

The recommended park name reflects and celebrates the conservation success story of Annandale Canyon. This land was under threat of development and preserved by the City, local residents, and a grant from Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The Gabrielino-Tongva name "Yayaaytnga" which means "place of the birds," was proposed by Tina Calderon, a Tongva, Chumash, Yoeme Culture Bearer and Tongva Language Committee member. During Ms. Calderon's Annandale Canyon visit, she was greeted by a number of native birds, and this interaction served as the inspiration for the recommended trail name.

Upon approval of a name by the City Council, City staff will have the park's monument sign fabricated and constructed.

## **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The naming process presented is consistent with the City's Public Park and Recreational Facility Naming Policy.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

CEQA excludes from environmental analysis those actions that are not "projects" as defined by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378. That section excludes from the definition of "project" the creation of government funding mechanisms and fiscal activities which do not yet commit the lead agency to any specific project, and also excludes organizational or administrative governmental activities that do not result in physical changes to the environment. The action proposed for the naming of a park facility is part of the City's normal administrative process.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact for this action.

Respectfully submitted,

BRENDA HARVEY-WILLIAMS, Director Parks, Recreation & Community Services

Prepared by:

Enrique Arroyo

Management Analyst V

Approved by:

MIGUEL MARQUEZ

City Manager

Attachment A - Public Park and Recreational Facility Naming Policy

## Attachment A



# CITY OF PASADENA PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY NAMING POLICY

#### I. PURPOSE

The city finds that it is in the best interest of the community to develop a formal process for requests to name parks and recreational facilities in city parks. Therefore the city deems it desirable, and in the public interest, to establish a set of guidelines and procedures for the selection of names for parks and recreational facilities.

#### II. POLICY

The City will adopt a name for each city park based on one or more of the following criteria and, when deemed appropriate, may do the same for a recreational facility located within the physical boundaries of a city park. The following criteria shall be used in determining the names of city parks and recreational facilities:

- (a) Geographical location of the park or facility; or
- (b) Natural or geological features proximate to the park or facility; or
- (c) Cultural or historical significance to the City or surrounding neighborhood; or
- (d) The name of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the community, country, state, or the field of parks and recreation.

Existing names shall not be subject to change unless, after investigation and review, the proposed name is found to be more appropriate than the existing name, based on the criteria listed in this policy. Any action to change the name of an existing park shall follow the same process as outlined below.

#### III. PROCESS

- A. Any person or organization may submit a request to name a public park or recreational facility to the City Manager. Such requests should provide the proposed name, the location and brief description of the park or facility to be named, and a statement evidencing that the proposed name is consistent with this policy.
- B. The City Manager shall review such requests and may refer the request to the Director of Public Works for appropriate action. In the case of the naming or

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## Attachment A

renaming of a park, the city will notify and accept input from all property owners within a 1000-foot radius of the subject site. The proposed name change, along with any input received from property owners regarding such, will be considered by the Recreation and Parks commission at a public meeting.

C. Upon the recommendation of the Recreation and Parks commission, staff will prepare an agenda report pertaining to the proposed naming. Such action will be considered by the City Council at a public meeting. The date, time and location of such hearing shall be noticed in advance. Although not required by law, courtesy notices of the name change should be mailed in advance of the City Council's consideration of a name change to all property owners within 1,000 feet of the park and to other parties which have expressed an interest. Based on the action taken by the Council, staff will take all appropriate measures regarding the naming of the park or recreational facility. Petitioner shall be responsible for all costs associated with name change.