



Department of Public Works

# **PROPOSED OPTIONS TO RECOGNIZE RHYTHM AND BLUES MUSIC GROUP, *TROOP***

City Council  
October 21, 2024  
Item # 15





# Recommendations

Department of Public Works

1. Find that the proposed options to recognize Troop are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15301;
2. Review and select amongst four proposed options to recognize a rhythm and blues music group, *TROOP*; or
3. Provide alternate direction.



# Background

Department of Public Works

- Applicant – Ms. Keisha Wilkins
- Recognition of rhythm & blues (R&B) group, *TROOP*
  - > September 2023 – original request to rename Catalina Avenue, Maple Street to Villa Street
    - not supported by affected residents of the block
  - > April 15, 2024 – Council considered 2 street rename options
    - Dayton Street - Fair Oaks to Raymond Ave
    - Morton Avenue - Hammond St to Mountain
    - Directed staff to continue the public hearing and bring forth consideration of renaming Dayton Street as the only option
  - > June 3, 2024 - Council resolved to recognize TROOP in a meaningful way; directed staff to return with additional options



# TROOP - R&B Group

Department of Public Works

- Acronym for 'Total Respect of Other People'
- Formed 1988 in Pasadena, TROOP members include:
  - > Rodney Benford; Jon Jon Harreld; Steve Russel; Allen McNeil; Reggie Warren (passed away in 2020)
- Three number-one singles and ten top-ten singles on the Billboard R&B Singles chart
- Performed at various Pasadena venues
  - > Talent shows at Pasadena high schools during formative years
  - > Practicing at Robinson Park Recreation Center for over 35 years
  - > Rose Bowl
  - > Local community functions; e.g. Northwest Renaissance in 2007



# Recognition Options

Department of Public Works

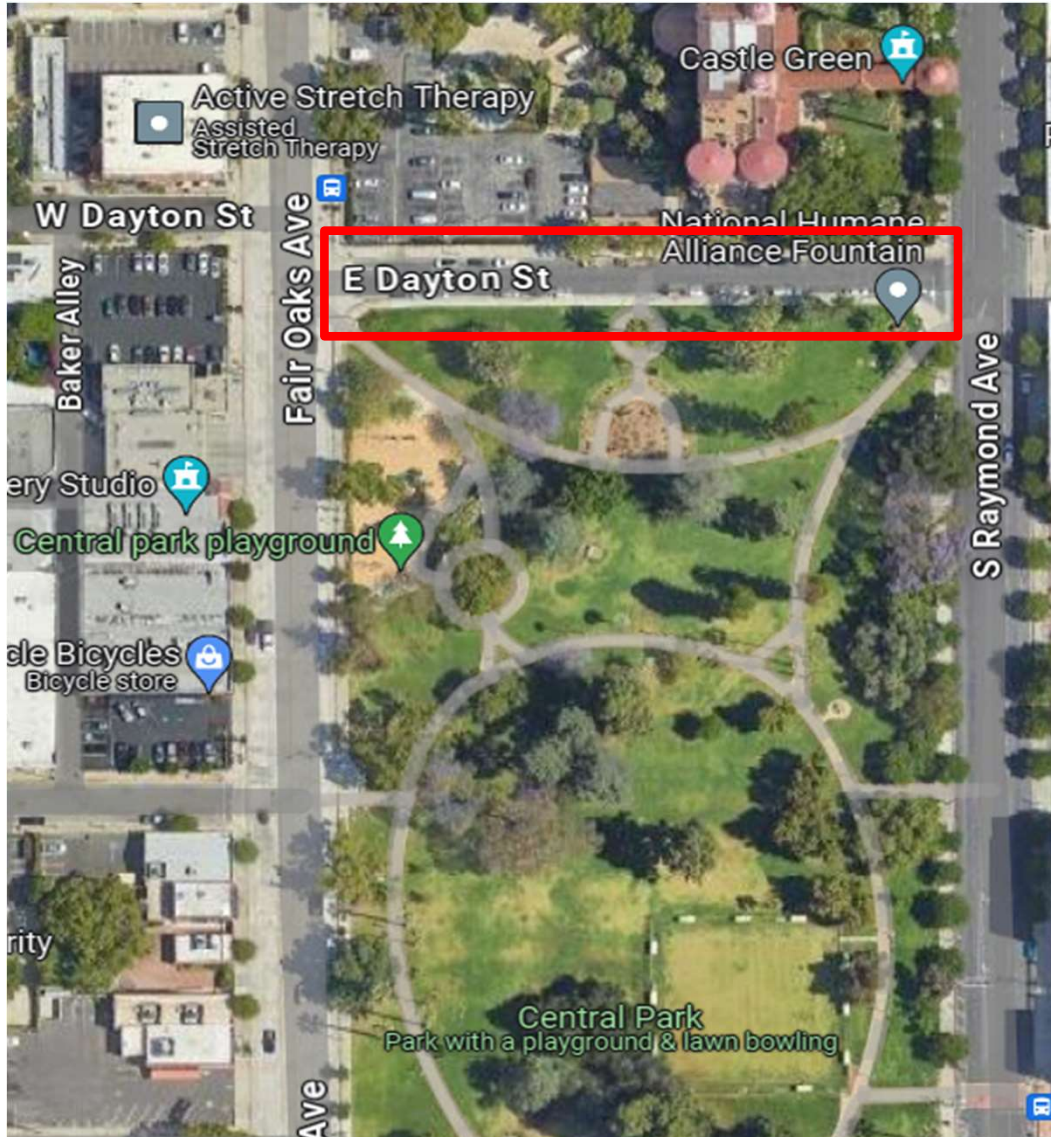
September 2024 – Ms. Wilkins letter of support for consideration of the following options:

- **A** - Renaming Dayton Street to *Troop Way*, between Fair Oaks Ave & Raymond Ave
- **B** - Plaque within Central Park, corner of Fair Oaks Ave & Dayton St
- **C** - Renaming the Dance Room at Robinson Recreation Center to *Troop Room*
- **D** - Plaque on the wall of the Pasadena Civic Auditorium



# Option A - Renaming Dayton Street

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- TROOP practiced their dance moves at Central Park
- Jon Jon Harreld performed in Pasadena Jazz Festival
- City Street Renaming Process, with noticing guidelines in compliance with Cal. Streets & Highways Code
- Notice of June 3<sup>rd</sup> Public Hearing mailed to properties within 1000' radius and public comments collected
- Impact to delivery address for Green Hotel property, 39 E Dayton
- Subject to City Council approval

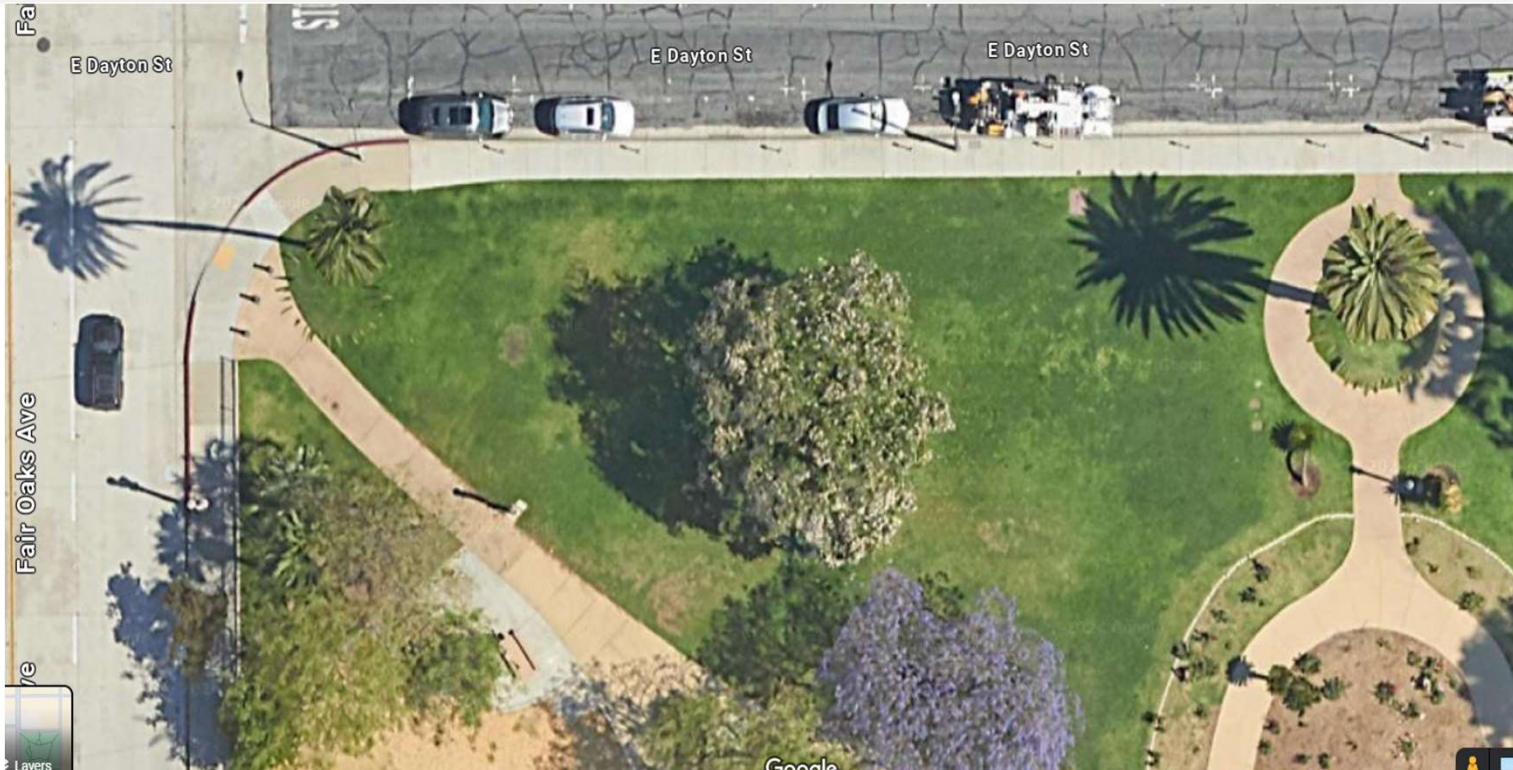


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# Option B – Plaque @ Central Park NW Corner

Department of Public Works



- TROOP practiced their dance moves at Central Park
- Jon Jon Harreld performed in Pasadena Jazz Festival held at the Park
- Criteria & process for appropriateness per City's Public Monument Policy –
  - Compatibility and impact to existing uses; liability/safety; aesthetics; maintenance
- Subject to recommendation of Recreation & Parks Commission prior to Council approval
- Design of plaque to be determined and later approved by Recreation & Parks Commission



# Option C - Renaming Dance Room @ Robinson Recreation Center

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- TROOP has practiced at Robinson Park for over three decades
- TROOP members continue to practice in the Dance Room

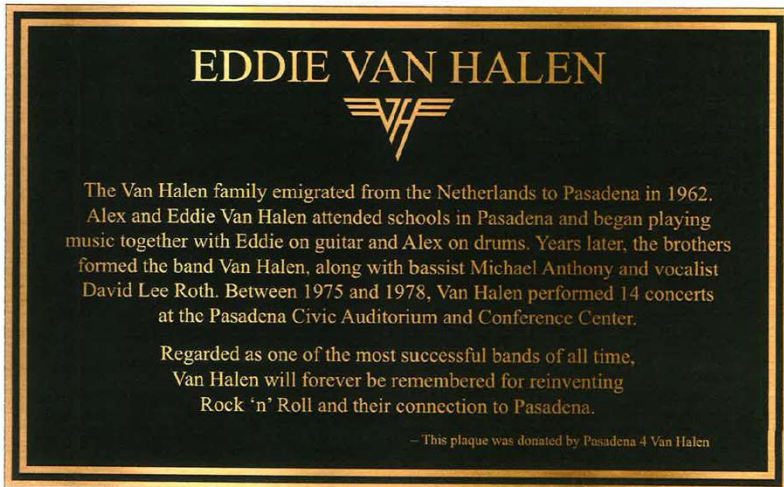
- Naming criteria/process per City's Public Park & Recreational Facility Naming Policy
  - Geographical location; Cultural or historical significance to neighborhood/City; Contribution to the community or state or country
- Notice for Public Input to property owners within 1000' radius, Dist #3 HOAs and stakeholders
- Subject to recommendation of Recreation & Parks Commission prior to Council approval





# Option D - Plaque at Civic Auditorium

Department of Public Works



- Existing wall plaque honoring Eddie Van Halen, donated by Pasadena 4 Van Halen in 2021
- Similar plaque recognizing TROOP at the same location
- Criteria/process per City's Public Monument Policy
- Subject to recommendation of Recreation & Parks Commission prior to Council approval



# Recreation and Parks Commission Recommendations

Department of Public Works

## October 1, 2024 Commission Meeting

- Reviewed three proposed recognition options
  - > Renaming [Dayton] streets not under the purview of the Recreation and Parks Commission
- Considered public input and heard public comments
  - > Robinson Recreation Center named after Mack and Jack Robinson; Renaming any rooms would diminish the magnitude and intent to honor the legendary brothers in a holistic sense
  - > Petition submitted by Castle Green residents objecting to renaming of Dayton Street for historical and logistical reasons
- Unanimously recommends Option D, to install a plaque on the exterior wall of the Pasadena Civic Auditorium
  - > Envisioning space can become a designated location to honor significant musical, cultural and artistic contributions



# Questions & Comments