



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 37

Agenda Date: December 5, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Homer Garcia III

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: District 6

SUBJECT:

Naming of the New District 6 Destination Park to Luis Gomez Park

SUMMARY:

Ordinance approving the naming of the New District 6 Destination Park to Luis Gomez Park.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Councilwoman Melissa Cabello Havrda submitted a letter to the City Clerk for the naming of the Destination Park, a 2022 bond project, to Luis Gomez Park. Mr. Luis Gomez is a lifelong resident of the Edgewood community, where the new destination park will be located. He is a pillar of the Edgewood community, a member of the Edgewood ISD Board of Trustees, a District 6 appointee to the City's Zoning Board of Adjustments, and a District 6 appointee to the City Redistricting Committee.

His involvement with community advancement and civil rights goes back to the 1968 Edgewood walkout when he and a group of Edgewood high school seniors staged a walkout to highlight the conditions and discrimination in their school. The historic walkout prompted a generational change in the state educational system.

He is also a member of the generation of Edgewood Vietnam veterans who lost 53 sons to the war, among the highest total number for a community in the entire country. He has since been actively involved in veterans' organizations, supporting veterans' affairs, and giving his time and energy to the veterans' cause.

He is a true Edgewood community leader-guiding and supporting families, organizations, schools, organizing events, and bringing people together to improve their community. His impact is difficult to quantify, but it is readily understood through conversations and interactions with members of the Edgewood community whose lives have been changed for the better because of Mr. Gomez's dedication and involvement.

Staff followed the naming process in accordance with Ordinance No. 2011-03-31-0239. A committee was established to hold a public hearing on this proposal. The committee consisted of Mike Cooremans, Community Representatives selected by Councilmember Melissa Cabello Havrda, Council District 6, and Homer Garcia, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. Notification was mailed to those within a fifteen hundred (1500) foot radius of the New District 6 Destination Park adjacent to 5800 Historic Old Highway 90. Publication was placed in the San Antonio Express-News, San Antonio Report, SA Speak Up, e-blast to the Parks and Recreation Department's 4,500 subscribers, and District 6 communication platforms. Based on the responses received from the public notice mailout and both in-person and written comments, 30 notices were in favor of the proposed naming, and 8 notices were in opposition. Following public input, the public hearing concluded with the committee recommending moving forward for City Council consideration the naming the New District 6 Destination Park to Luis Gomez Park located in Council District 6.

ISSUE:

The City Clerk recieved a request for the naming of the Destination Park, a 2022 bond project, to Luis Gomez Park located in Council District 6. The public naming process was followed consistent with the City's Naming of City Facilities and Streets ordinance, which City Council action is necessary.

ALTERNATIVES:

City Council could elect not to name the New District 6 Destination Park after Luis Gomez Park which is located adjacent to 5800 Historic Old Highway 90 in Council District 6 and allow it to remain as-is.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approving the New District 6 Destination Park as Luis Gomez Park, located adjacent to 5800 Historic Old Highway 90 in Council District 6.