

# CODE AMENDMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARK & FACILITY NAMINGS

OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT, AND SUSTAINABILITY MEETING  
JANUARY 27, 2016



# PURPOSE

The purpose of this request is to propose four (4) code amendments to Austin City Code Title 14 – pertaining to the Naming and Renaming of Park Facilities in order to:

- **Amendment 1:** Establish a separate Park Naming section
- **Amendment 2:** Clearly define what type of park facilities and features can be named
- **Amendment 3:** Add new Park naming policy changes that establishes minimum requirements to qualify
- **Amendment 4:** Establish a procedure section for naming park features

# PROPOSED CODE AMENDMENTS

## Amendment 1 and 2 : Code 14-1-36 : Definitions

- (1) **PARK FACILITY** means a park, significant building, sports complex, pool facility or trail operated or maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department. Significant building shall be defined as recreation, senior, cultural centers or other significant destination facilities used for parks and recreational purposes.
- (2) **PARK FEATURE** means a recreational improvement that is not considered a park facility and is a major component in the park facility.



# PROPOSED CODE AMENDMENTS

## Amendment 3: Code 14-1-37 : Park Naming Policy

- (A) A park feature in a park facility may be dedicated to an individual or group to recognize a valuable contribution or creditable service to the park system or the community without naming or renaming the park facility in which the feature is located. A plaque recognizing a deserving individual or group may be placed by the park feature without naming or renaming the park facility in which the plaque is placed. **Additional plaque's recognizing other individuals or groups may be placed at the same feature location. The plaque(s) may be removed only when the park feature is removed and repurposed into another park feature.** Naming a park feature can be done administratively without City Council approval.
- (B) A park facility may be named for:
  - (1) **a deceased individual only if the deceased individual has provided a valuable contribution and creditable service to the park system, the City, and has been deceased for a minimum of 2 years; or**
  - (2) **a living individual or group that deeds the land to the City for a park facility, contributes the anticipated cost of at least 50% of the development of the park facility and provides an endowment for the anticipated 20-year maintenance costs of the park facility.**
- (C) A park facility once named, may not be renamed.
- (D) **A non-refundable application fee must be paid at the time of submission of the application for naming or renaming a feature or facility.**
- (E) **If a name is approved by council or the director, a sign fabrication, plaque and installation fee must be paid prior to fabrication.**
- (F) **Suggestions must demonstrate public support. Public support materials must be provided to Parks and Recreation staff prior to any approvals.**



# PROPOSED CODE AMENDMENTS

## **Amendment 4: Code 14-1-38 : PROCEDURE FOR NAMING A FEATURE**

- (A) A person may submit a nomination for naming a park feature or endorse a previously submitted nomination. A nomination or endorsement must be submitted to the director as provided by this section. The director may promulgate forms for this purpose.
- (B) A suggestion for naming a feature must include:
  - (1) if the nomination is an individual's name, a biographical sketch of the individual whose name is nominated, their valuable contribution or creditable service to the park system or the community, including their involvement, and the individual's connection, if any, to the park feature or to the activity for which the park feature will be used; or
  - (2) if the nomination is not an individual's name, justification for the suggested name.
- (C) the director may notify the Parks and Recreation Board that the director finds to have appropriate jurisdiction that a park feature is to be named.

## NEXT STEPS

- **October 13, 2015** Received unanimous approval by the Land, Facilities and Programs Committee of the Parks and Recreation Board
- **December 8, 2015** Received unanimous approval by the Parks and Recreation Board
- **January 27, 2016** Presentation to the OSES Committee
- **February 2016** Council consideration

# PARD REQUEST

- OSES make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of an ordinance amending city code Chapter 14-1 (Dedication of or naming a public facility or property) and relating to the naming or renaming of park facilities.

# QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

STAFF CONTACT: GREGORY MONTES, PARK DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR  
PHONE: 512.974.9458/EMAIL: [GREGORY.MONTES@AUSTINTEXAS.GOV](mailto:GREGORY.MONTES@AUSTINTEXAS.GOV)