

# CITY OF OAKLAND

## AGENDA REPORT

FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND  
2008 OCT 30 PM 3:44

**To:** Office of the City Administrator  
**Attn:** Dan Lindheim  
**From:** Office of Parks and Recreation  
**Date:** November 12, 2008

**Re:** **Resolution Renaming Brookfield Park at 9175 Edes Avenue to the Bill Patterson Park**

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### SUMMARY

Staff is requesting that Council adopt a resolution renaming Brookfield Park in East Oakland in honor of William "Bill" Patterson who has many civic and community contributions to his credit. Mr. Patterson has worked tirelessly to improve parks and recreation activities for youth in Oakland, and he continues to be a vibrant, dedicated, and noteworthy member of the Oakland community.

The request was submitted to the Office of Parks and Recreation by community members and organizations who believed that Mr. Patterson's contributions would most appropriately be memorialized by naming a park facility in his honor. Mr. Patterson worked at deFremery Recreation Center in West Oakland for many years and was the first recreation center director for the center now known as Ira Jinkins Community Center (formerly Brookfield Recreation Center). Over the many years that Mr. Patterson has been involved in parks projects, he has been instrumental in safeguarding some of Oakland's most beloved and valued park assets such as the Oakland Zoo, Children's Fairyland and many other parks and playgrounds. Through his service and extraordinary commitment, Mr. Patterson has touched many, many lives and cultivated the talents of a number of notable people from the Bay Area including Bill Russell, Frank Robinson, Willie Stargell, Joe Morgan, and former Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson. His work continues to be an inspiration to city government and community organizations.

In keeping with the provisions of Resolution 65024 C.M.S., which governs the naming of City facilities, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission approved the renaming at its June 18, 2008 meeting.

### FISCAL IMPACT

Naming the park the Bill Patterson Park is estimated to cost \$1,100 for the manufacture of the sign and will be paid out of the Office of Parks and Recreation: Fund 1010 Organization 501110.

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## **BACKGROUND**

Bill Patterson was born in Arkansas and came to Oakland in 1948. Early on, he was very involved in sports and recreation activities and he went on to begin his community-building work when he began working at the deFremery Recreation Center in West Oakland. Under Bill's leadership, the center was known for its sports programs, youth dances, community meetings, and social activities. It was here that Mr. Patterson met and worked with Bill Russell (NBA Champion) and Joe Morgan (Baseball Hall of Fame) – men who went on to help put Oakland on the map in terms of its capacity for supporting huge athletic talents. When a new recreation center was built in East Oakland to promote youth activities to the growing neighborhoods there, Mr. Patterson was the logical choice to run the programs at Brookfield Recreation Center. Brookfield Center was later renamed for community activist, Ira Jenkins, a man Bill Patterson knew well and worked closely with to help develop and improve the parks in East Oakland.

Mr. Patterson has also been engaged in civic activities outside of the Oakland's parks. He is past President of the East Bay Municipal Utility District's Board of Directors. He served as the representative for Ward 6, which includes Alameda County's East Oakland Hills and south of Lake Merritt to the San Leandro city boundary, in 1998 and was re-elected in 2000 and 2004.

Mr. Patterson is widely recognized as one of Oakland's civic champions. He has been actively involved in many political campaigns and community organizations for more than four decades. He is a past president of the Oakland NAACP. In the many years over which Mr. Patterson has been involved in parks projects, he has been instrumental in safeguarding some of Oakland's most beloved and valued park assets such as the Oakland Zoo, Children's Fairyland, and many other parks and playgrounds. Through his service and extraordinary commitment, Mr. Patterson has touched many, many lives and cultivated the talents of a number of notable people from the Bay Area. He was also a close confidant and advisor to the late Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson, the City's first African American mayor. He served on the Oakland's Public Ethics and Parks and Recreation Commissions.

## **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

The renaming of the park at 9175 Edes Avenue from "Brookfield Park" encompassing the Ira Jenkins Recreation Center and Joe Morgan Ball Field to "Bill Patterson Park" adheres to the criteria in Resolution No 65024 C.M.S., Designating Official Names for Municipal Facilities, item (d) memorialization of a living person under special circumstances. After reviewing the materials submitted by community members seeking to honor Mr. Patterson with this park renaming, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission found that the name change was appropriate and met the requisite criteria. The Commission voted to approve the renaming at its June 18, 2008 meeting.

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**SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

The proposed renaming provides no sustainable opportunities.

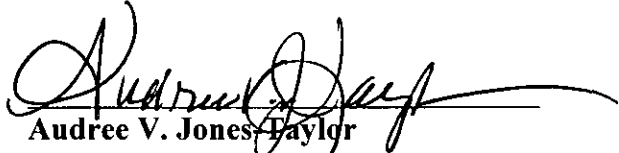
**DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS**

Renaming of the park has no impact for disabled and senior citizens.

**RECOMMENDATION AND ACTION REQUESTED**

Staff recommends and requests that Council pass a Resolution renaming Brookfield Park at 9175 Edes Avenue the Bill Patterson Park at the Ira Jenkins Recreation Center and Joe Morgan Ball Field.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Audree V. Jones-Taylor  
Director, Office of Parks and Recreation

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE  
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE:

  
Office of the City Administrator

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Approved as to Form and Legality

  
Oakland City Attorney's Office

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

## RESOLUTION RENAMING "BROOKFIELD PARK" AT 9175 EDES AVENUE, TO "BILL PATTERSON PARK"

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bill Patterson is widely recognized as one of Oakland's civic champions and has worked tirelessly for over 4 decades to improve parks and recreation activities for youth in Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bill Patterson was the first recreation center director at Ira Jinkins Community Center (formally know as Brookfield Recreation Center) at Brookfield Park and Joe Morgan Ball Field; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bill Patterson through his service and extraordinary commitment, has touched many lives and cultivated the talents of a number of notable people from the Bay Area including Bill Russell, Frank Robinson, Willie Stargell, and Joe Morgan; and

**WHEREAS**, community members and organizations requested the renaming of the park because they believed that Mr. Patterson's contributions would most appropriately be memorialized by naming a park facility in his honor; and

**WHEREAS**, renaming the park is estimated to cost \$1,100 for the manufacture of the sign and will be paid for by the Office of Parks and Recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, the renaming of the park adheres to the criteria in Resolution No. 65024 C.M.S., Designating Official Names for Municipal Facilities, item (d) memorialization of a living person under special circumstances and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission approved the renaming of the park at its June 18, 2008 meeting; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**: that the City Administrator or his designee is hereby authorized to rename "Brookfield Park" at 9175 Edes Avenue to the "Bill Patterson Park"; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**: That the Office of the City Attorney has approved this resolution as to form and legality, and a copy will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.  
**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LaTonda Simmons  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California