

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

2009 MAY 14 PM 4: 32

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Dan Lindheim
FROM: Office of Parks and Recreation
DATE: May 26, 2009

RE: **Resolution Authorizing the Naming of the Gardens Adjacent to the Marsha J. Corprew Memorial Garden Center Located at 666 Bellevue Avenue to The Gardens at Lake Merritt**

SUMMARY

Staff is requesting that Council adopt a resolution naming the gardens adjacent to the Marsha J. Corprew Memorial Garden Center (Garden Center) located inside Lakeside Park to The Gardens at Lake Merritt. The gardens have not gone through a naming process and are referred to by many different names in various documents. The gardens are a special horticultural area with several gardens of prominence and are deserving of a proper name.

In keeping with the provisions of Resolution at No. 65024 C.M.S. governing the naming of City facilities, the Parks and Recreation Advisory commission approved the naming at its meeting on March 6, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no expected fiscal impact to the City. The Strategic Planning Committee of Oakland East Bay Garden Center, Inc. will seek funding for new signage.

BACKGROUND

The gardens adjacent to the Garden Center are a hidden gem of Oakland, partially due to the lack of continuity as to how they are referenced. The Lake Merritt Master Plan refers to the gardens as the Botanical Garden, the Demonstration Gardens, the Lakeside Botanic Gardens and the Arboretum. The Strategic Planning Committee of the Oakland East Bay Garden Center, Inc. approached the Office of Parks and Recreation requesting the gardens be named. It is the hope of the Committee that with a proper name, the Committee will be able to provide the gardens the notoriety they deserve, removing its current status as one of Oakland's hidden gems.

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The gardens are a very special place and, much like the San Francisco Botanical Garden, consist of several smaller themed gardens. Gardens of prominence include: the Bonsai Garden, the Sensory Garden, the Mediterranean Garden, the Rhododendron Garden, the Vireya Rhododendron Lathhouse, The Bay Friendly Demonstration Garden, and the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Garden containing the Torrii Gate. The name of "The Gardens at Lake Merritt" was chosen due to the proximity to Lake Merritt and because it fully encompasses the complete gardens without detracting from each individual themed garden.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Naming the gardens adjacent to the Garden Center The Gardens at Lake Merritt, is in keeping with the criteria listed in Resolution No. 65024 C.M.S. Designating Official Names for Municipal Facilities, item (a) a geographical area of the City or a significant historical event.

The Garden Center is celebrating its 50th anniversary and the Office of Parks and Recreation is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Festivities are planned throughout the year making it an appropriate time to formally name the gardens.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The naming of the gardens will consist of inviting banners placed at the gates of the gardens describing the individual gardens within. Future plans include the placement of a permanent sign made of recycled materials near the entrance of the gardens.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Naming of the gardens along with new signage will provide an opportunity to draw attention to the gardens, increasing patronage to Lakeside Park and therefore the potential for increased City parking revenue.

Environmental: The permanent sign will be constructed of recycled materials.

Social Equity: The proposed naming has no impact on social equity.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

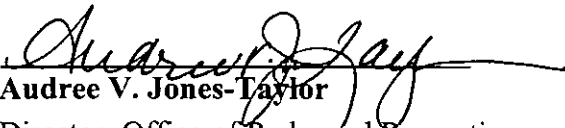
Proposed naming of the gardens has no impact for disabled and senior citizens.

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RECOMMENDATION AND ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends and requests that Council pass a Resolution naming the gardens adjacent to the Marsha J. Corprew Memorial Garden Center, The Gardens at Lake Merritt.

Respectfully submitted,


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

Prepared by:
Dana Riley, Assistant to the Director
Office of Parks and Recreation

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE:



Office of the City Administrator

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FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

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Approved as to Form and legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE NAMING OF THE GARDENS
ADJACENT TO THE MARSHA J. CORPREW MEMORIAL GARDEN
CENTER LOCATED AT 666 BELLEVUE AVENUE TO THE
GARDENS AT LAKE MERRITT**

WHEREAS, the gardens are a special horticultural area with several gardens of prominence and are deserving of a proper name; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Planning Committee of the Oakland East Bay Garden Center, Inc. has requested the gardens be named; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland East Bay Garden Center is to seek funding for signage resulting in no expected fiscal impact to the City; and

WHEREAS, naming the gardens adheres to the criteria of Resolution 65024 C.M.S. Designating Official Names for Municipal Facilities, item (a) a geographical area of the City or a significant historical event; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City Administrator or his designee is hereby authorized to name the gardens adjacent to the Marsha J. Corprew Memorial Gardens located at 666 Bellevue Avenue to The Gardens at Lake Merritt; 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, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California