

19 MAY 15 PM 1:47


City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 87727 - C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NOEL GALLO

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENAMING OF NICOL PARK TO GWEN JACKSON PARK

WHEREAS, Nicol Park is located on the corner of Coolidge Avenue and Nicol Avenue in Council District 5; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gwen Jackson initiated the work that transformed Nicol Park from a blighted vacant lot known for drug dealing, to the children's playground used today by children in the community. Ms. Jackson first held community events in the lot and led efforts to secure grants that funded the play structure, colorful tiles, mural, and planter boxes that now grace the park; and

WHEREAS, for years Ms. Gwen ran free summer Saturday programs in the park for children, with arts, drama, science discovery, and play; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gwen Jackson dedicated herself to improving our community to the last day of her life. Even though she did not have much, she was determined to contribute, and to provide local children with opportunities she herself had lacked. Ms. Gwen served on local boards, and founded FACE (Fruitvale Appreciating Cultural Exchange), offering free tutoring and classes in sewing, arts, drama, and cooking; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Jackson died in July 2018 at age 80; and

WHEREAS, with this renaming, the neighbors and friends of the park honor her and the difference she made in the neighborhood. Many in the community have been involved – adopting the park, keeping it clean, planting and watering flowers, helping with the summer program, providing toys and art supplies. None of this would have happened without Gwen Jackson's vision, leadership and optimism; and

WHEREAS, Joanne Jasson and members of the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council 21 X/Y, Friends of Nicol Park, neighbors, and community members from City Council District 5 came together to commemorate the life and contributions of Ms. Gwen Jackson by renaming Nicol Park to 'Gwen Jackson Park'; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission unanimously endorsed the staff recommendation to rename the park at its regular meeting on March 29, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the renaming of the park is in keeping with the criteria listed in Resolution No. 65024 C.M.S. on Designating Official Names for Municipal Facilities and Resolution No. 56600, Procedure for Designating Official Names for Park and Recreation Facilities in the City of Oakland; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council finds and determines that the renaming of Nicol Park to Gwen Jackson Park is consistent with City Council Resolution Nos. 65024 C.M.S. and 56600 C.M.S.; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council directs the City Administrator to proceed with the designation of Gwen Jackson Park and the placement of sign(s) or plaque(s) to that effect.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

JUN 0 4 2019

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, ~~WILLIAMS~~ TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN - 7

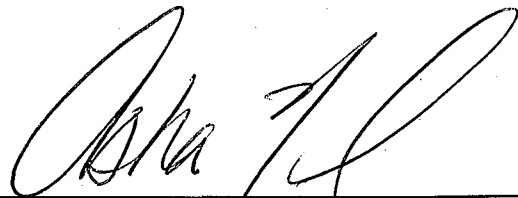
NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

Excused - 1 Reed

ATTEST:



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