

# **GUIDELINES FOR THE NAMING OF PUBLIC FACILITIES**

## **City of College Station, Texas**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of these guidelines is to establish a systematic and consistent approach for the official naming of public facilities in the City of College Station, including parks, facilities, recreational areas, streets, and municipal buildings.

### **Objectives**

- Ensure that parks, facilities, recreational areas, and municipal buildings are easily identified and located.
- Ensure that given names to parks, facilities, recreational areas, and municipal buildings are consistent with the values and character of the area or neighborhood served.
- Encourage public participation in the naming, renaming, and dedication of parks, facilities, recreational areas, and municipal buildings.
- Encourage the dedication of lands, facilities, or donations by individuals and/or groups.
- Advance the reputation of the City as well as increase the understanding and public support for its programs.

### **Criteria**

The practice of the City of College Station is to name parks, recreation areas, facilities, and municipal buildings through an adopted process utilizing the above objectives, emphasizing community values and character, local and national history, geography, the environment, civics, and service to the City of College Station. Therefore, the following criteria shall be used in determining the appropriateness of the naming designation:

- Neighborhood, geographic, or common usage identification;
- A historical figure, place, event, or other instance of historical or cultural significance;
- National and state historical leaders or heroes, both past and present;
- An individual, living or deceased [a] who has made a significant land and/or monetary contribution to the park, recreation area, facility, or municipal building, or [b] who has had the contribution made "In Memoriam" and when the name has been stipulated as a condition of the donation;
- An individual, living or deceased, who has contributed outstanding civic service to the City;
- Predominant plant materials; or
- Streams, rivers, lakes, and creeks.

Facilities or specialized areas may have a name different from that of the larger park, recreation area, facility, or municipal building.

When feasible, the process to name parks, recreation areas, facilities, and municipal buildings should begin within twelve (12) months after the City has acquired title to the land and/or formally accepted the dedication.

Names that are similar to existing parks, recreation areas, facilities, and municipal buildings should not be considered in order to minimize confusion.

### **Renaming**

The City reserves the right to change the name of a park, recreation area, facility or municipal building to maintain consistency with these guidelines. However, renaming carries with it a much greater burden of process compared to initial naming. Tradition and continuity of name and community identification are important community values. Each request to rename must meet the criteria of this policy, but meeting all criteria does not ensure renaming.

### **Procedures**

Upon approval of these guidelines by Council, procedures consistent with the guidelines will be developed. It is anticipated that naming/renaming requests will be submitted to the City Manager. The Manager will then forward the request through an appropriate board, committee, or organization or directly to the City Council for approval. (For example, if the naming or renaming request is for a parks facility, the City Manager will submit the request to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board who will review and make a recommendation. The City Manager will review that recommendation and then submit it to Council for approval.)

The City Council may, upon its own initiative, name or rename a City facility without following these guidelines. An individual council member may submit a naming suggestion to the City Manager, who will then apply the guidelines and procedures.