



March 14, 2019

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Brandii Grace

Mihran Kalaydjian

David Lasher

Becky Leveque

Los Angeles City Recreation and Park Department
Office of Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 86328
Los Angeles, CA 90086-0328
Attn: Board Secretary

RAP.Commissioners@LACity.org

Re: Naming Proposal for the new 50 Acre Park in Porter Ranch

Dear Honorable Commissioners and General Manager:

The new park 50 acre park in Porter Porter is of tremendous interest to the stakeholders and consequently, the issue has been discussed by the land use committee, the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council Board, received comments on Facebook, and member(s) of the board have attended the pertinent outreach and commission hearings held outside Porter Ranch. On January 9th, 2019, the PRNC Board held a public meeting where public comments were heard, board discussion took place with the Board approving a motion to recommend the naming of the new 50 acre park "Porter Ranch Community Park".

Subsequent to our January Board Meeting, a PRNC land use meeting was held on March 1, 2019 to review the Naming Policy and determine if this proposed name met the guidelines set forth by the Recreation and Park Board on June 5, 2013. There are 2 types of proposals outlined. The first involves a financial contribution, which would not apply since the park is being built using Quimby Fees (fees a developer must pay as required by law). It was the second type of Naming proposal "unique significance of a specific place or person" as the basis for justification of the name Porter Ranch Community Park.

Porter Ranch is a historical reference to the George M. Porter, the early landowner of what is now called Porter Ranch. Using the name "Porter" brings light to an important historical element of the San Fernando Valley and provides an opportunity to educate, entertain and showcase history and the role George M. Porter, the prior landowner of what is today considered Porter Ranch. One benefit is that using the name Porter will be complimentary to the iconic statues of the two Porter Brother's on their horses which are to be installed in the park. For many years, these statues were a prominent Valley landmark and it's exciting to see them being brought back to the community to enjoy.

The name “Porter Ranch Community Park” provides the location in the name since it’s located in Porter Ranch and accessible from Porter Ranch Drive. Also, the name ties in with the name of the adjacent K-8 Porter Ranch Community School. Comments from the Land Use Committee were that the name is welcoming, all-inclusive, and easy to remember.

Therefore, it is the position of the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council that the name “Porter Ranch Community Park” be strongly considered for the new 50 acre park as it showcases the unique significance of George M. Porter and his Ranch and that the reasons above provide “compelling and impressive substantiation demonstrating how the interest of the City and its residents will be served or impacted.”

The PRNC would like to thank the Recreation and Parks Commissioners and Staff for their leadership on this very important issue and for coming to the PRNC Board Meeting. Additionally, we appreciate the continuing efforts to achieve maximum community input and agreeing to hold the meeting in Porter Ranch at our regular board meeting. This will give a chance for our stakeholders to easily participate and give input. Lastly, we would like to commend the RAP Commissioners, General Manager and Staff for their implementation of the Naming Guidelines of June 5, 2013. These guidelines are also of great importance and will help ensure that Park names serve the interests of the City and its residents for years to come.

Respectfully,

Issam Najm

President

David Balen

Chair, Land Use Committee