

MOTION

Jose Manuel Saucedo was born on September 5, 1955 in Naica, Chihuahua, Mexico. While he would one day become the patriarch behind the famous Westside Boxing Club in the Mid City Neighborhood, he spent his early life working as a miner in his hometown and listening to Mexican boxing matches on the radio.

In the early 1990s, Jose and his wife, Leticia, immigrated to the United States. They were both initially employed at a sewing factory, working 12-hour shifts and earning only \$2 an hour. They soon saved enough money to bring their two sons, Jose Jr. and Ignacio, to join them in Los Angeles.

Growing up, Jose had always encouraged Jose Jr. and Ignacio to play sports, passing down his love of boxing. However, as their training become more serious, the gym fees at local boxing gyms like the Broadway Boxing Gym in South Los Angeles were expensive and made it difficult for both to regularly box.

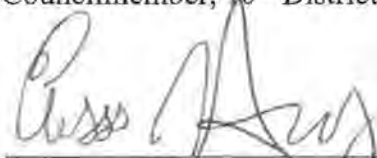
By 2006, Jose. Jr and Ignacio both had families of their own and Jose was a grandfather to eight children, including one grandson who was beginning to box. As his grandson was training at different gyms which were expensive, facing the same barriers that Jose Jr. and Ignacio had faced, Jose spoke to his sons about opening their own boxing gym.

In 2007, the Westside Boxing Club opened its doors, offering a serious boxing gym that many famed boxers would go on to train at, including Oscar de la Hoya and Canelo Alvarez, but also providing a place for youth like Jose’s own grandson to box at. Today, the gym serves as a world-class training ground for professional boxers and offers a place for at-risk youth in a historically disadvantaged area to train in the sport that the Saucedo family has been practicing for so many decades.

In recognition of Mr. Saucedo’s inspiring story and the role of Westside Boxing Club in its community and in the boxing sport writ large, it is appropriate that the City name the intersection of Pico Boulevard and West Boulevard, adjacent to the Westside Boxing Club, as “Jose Manuel Saucedo Square.”

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection at Pico Boulevard and West Boulevard be named as “**Jose Manuel Saucedo Square**” and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY: 
HEATHER HUTT
Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY: 

MAR 15 2023

ORIGINAL