

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR NAMING
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT PARKS AND FACILITIES**

Adopted by Resolution 13-2009 (Feb 23, 2009)

General – Park and facilities names are often as enduring as the property itself; therefore, the selection of a proper name is, and should be, a serious matter. Selections should attempt to induce a dynamic community impact, add credibility to the park or facility, create a cohesive theme, express appreciation, create lasting public relations, promote education, lift the mind and bond our heritage and very being to the land.

1) Authority to Name or Rename:

- a) Any park, parkway, recreation building, swimming pool, ball field, or any other facility managed and controlled by the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Wheat Ridge, hereinafter called park and/or facility, shall be named or renamed only by the Parks and Recreation Commission on affirmative vote of 2/3 majority of all members of said commission present.
- b) The name shall then become the official name upon approval of a 2/3 majority of the City Council.
- c) If the recommended name is not approved by City Council, the item shall be referred back to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

2) Naming Proposals:

- a) Proposals to name any park and/or facility may be initiated by any Parks and Recreation Commission member at any regular meeting of the commission. Also, any citizen of Wheat Ridge or the Director of Parks and Recreation may submit proposals in writing or by personal appearance at any regular meeting of the commission.
- b) Any such proposals must include reasons for the proposed name and as much evidence as possible in the form of letters, petitions, and/or personal appearance at a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, of neighborhood or community support of the proposed name.
- c) Any such letters or petitions must certify that each signer is or has been a resident of the City of Wheat Ridge, show each signer's address and telephone number.
- d) The Parks and Recreation Commission, through the Parks and Recreation Department, may but is not required to solicit names from the general public for park naming.

- i) Park names may be solicited within parameters established by the Parks and Recreation Commission for a specific site.
- ii) Time limits for name considerations will be established by the Parks and Recreation Commission on an individual park basis.

3) Naming Guidelines:

- a) All proposed names shall meet one or more of the following guidelines. However, the Parks and Recreation Commission may waive any or all of these guidelines upon a motion approved by a majority of commission members present.
- b) A park and/or facility may be named for:
 - i) An event; provided such event directly affected, affects or would be meaningful to the citizens of Wheat Ridge.
 - ii) A deceased person; provided the person has been known to be of good character, known to have never been convicted of a felony, and has contributed to the betterment of Wheat Ridge in some greater than average manner or who was of historic significance to the City, County, State or Nation.
 - iii) A living person; provided he/she has met all selection guidelines for a deceased person and who in addition has been exceptionally outstanding in his/her contribution to the betterment of Wheat Ridge. In addition, a written approval signed by the said person, agreeing to the naming, must be submitted with the proposal.
 - iv) A donor or group of donors of land, considerable property, or money, provided such donation was large and significant or represented considerable sacrifice by the donor or donors.
 - v) A place name, such as the neighborhood where located or a geographical or man-made feature; provided this name tends to identify the location or character of the park and/or facility.

4) Unacceptable Names:

Generally, no park and/or facility may be named for any of the following unless waived by a majority of the Parks and Recreation Commission members:

- a) Any person, living or deceased, who has had no connection with Wheat Ridge, excepting persons of historical significance to the City, County, State or Nation.

- b) Any church or religious organization, political organization, service club, fraternity organization or any other organized group unless they fully meet the guidelines listed above.

5) Existing names:

- a) This policy has no effect on existing official and/or accepted names of parks and/or facilities.
- b) The following such names are hereby designated as official names upon passage of this policy:
 - i) Anderson Community Building – a building in Wheat Ridge at West 44th Avenue and Field Street named in honor of Wheat Ridge’s first Mayor by action of City Council.
 - ii) Anderson Park – a park at West 44th Avenue and Field Street, originally named Wheat Ridge Park was renamed in honor of the first Mayor of Wheat Ridge by action of City Council.
 - iii) Apel-Bacher Park – a park at West 45th Avenue and Vance Street named for historic landowners of the property.
 - iv) Boyd’s Crossing Park – a park at West 45th Avenue and Everett Street named for a historic site used to cross Clear Creek.
 - v) Clear Creek Greenbelt Park – park areas along Clear Creek owned and leased, excepting those areas with other names – Johnson, Anderson and Prospect.
 - vi) Creekside Park – a park located at 49th and Marshall Street named for its geographic location adjacent to Clear Creek including Manwaring Field named through the Colorado Rockies Field-of-Dreams Program and named after Rockies catcher Kirt Manwaring who personally contributed funding.
 - vii) Founders’ Park – a park at 37th Avenue and Jay Street, a former carnation greenhouse site named for all of the founders of the Wheat Ridge Community.
 - viii) “Hank” Stites Park – a park at West 29th and Newland Street named in honor of Mayor Frank (Hank) Stites who was also a long time member of the Wheat Ridge Recreation District Board.
 - ix) Happiness Gardens – a community garden at 4226 Ammons Street named to recognize the happiness that gardening would bring to the students of Wilmore Davis elementary school who were being encouraged to participate.
 - x) Hayward Park – a park at West 29th Avenue and Wadsworth Boulevard named in honor of the previous owner by Parks and Recreation Commission action.
 - xi) Historical Park – a park at 46th Avenue and Robb Street named by general usage (including Sod House, Coulihan Cabin, the first Wheat Ridge Post Office and Museum).

- xii) Horace E. Randall Park – a park at 43rd Avenue and Fenton Street named by the board of the Wheat Ridge Recreation District in honor of a board member, secretary of said board for many years, who in this capacity did much for parks and recreation in the area.
- xiii) Johnson Park – a park at Clear Creek and Wadsworth Boulevard. The easterly portion was named by the donor in honor of his deceased wife, Elizabeth Johnson, as a condition of the gift to the Wheat Ridge Lions Club (who subsequently donated the park to the Wheat Ridge Recreation District). The westerly portion was named Samuel Johnson Park in honor of the donor, Judge Samuel Johnson. Subsequent additions to this park between Wadsworth Boulevard and West 44th Avenue by the City of Wheat Ridge, also bear the name Johnson Park.
- xiv) Panorama Park – a park at 35th Avenue and Depew Street named by contest when under the jurisdiction of the Wheat Ridge Recreation District.
- xv) Paramount Park – a park at West 27th Avenue and Kipling Street named for the subdivision in which it was located when under the jurisdiction of the Prospect Recreation District.
- xvi) Prospect Park – a park at West 44th Avenue and Robb Street named while under the jurisdiction of the Prospect Recreation District in honor of early prospectors who came up Clear Creek.
- xvii) Richards-Hart Estate – a park and historic mansion located at West 28th Avenue and Benton Street and named for the original owner/builder and the owner in longest residence.
- xviii) Wheat Ridge Municipal Pool – the name given to the outdoor pool located in Anderson Park at 44th and Field when it was constructed and opened to the public in 1980.
- xix) Wheat Ridge Recreation Center – Represents the geographical location of the Center. Named by City Council action.
- xx) Wheat Ridge Senior/Community Center – a building at 6363 W. 35th Avenue used by the seniors of Wheat Ridge and as a community center for recreational programming for the citizens of Wheat Ridge. Named by City Council action.

6) Renaming Guidelines:

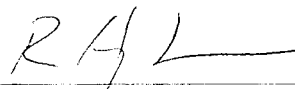
The renaming of parks and facilities is strongly discouraged. It is recommended that efforts to change a name be subject to the most critical examination so as not to diminish the original justification for the name or discount the value of the prior contributors. A renaming or change in name will be considered for the following circumstances:

- a) Only those parks and facilities named for a location or subdivision shall be considered for renaming.

- b) Parks and facilities named after individuals shall never be changed unless it is found that the individual's personal character is or was such that the continued use of the name for a park or facility would not be in the best interest of the community.

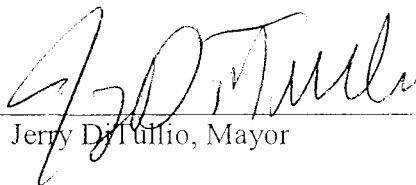
This policy and procedure shall become effective and binding upon the Parks and Recreation Department and the Parks and Recreation Commission as soon as it has been formally adopted by a 2/3 majority of the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission present, and a 2/3 majority of City Council. This policy and procedure shall continue in effect regardless of member changes of the Commission, but may be amended, done away with, or re-written at any time by a majority assenting vote of the Commission members present and a majority of City Council.

The above Policy and Procedure for Naming Parks and Recreation Department Parks and Facilities was adopted by a majority of the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission present at the regular meeting held January 21, 2009.



Ralph Hughes, Chair
Parks and Recreation Commission

The above policy and procedure was confirmed and approved by Resolution by a majority of City Council at a regular meeting held February 23, 2009.



Jerry DiTullio, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michael Snow, City Clerk