

**TOWN OF
APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

AGENDA MATTER

SUBJECT ITEM:

Discussion on Changing Name of Mountain Vista Park

SUMMARY STATEMENT

At the October 8, 2009 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, Commissioner Turnbull requested that a future agenda item be placed on the calendar to discuss changing the name of Mountain Vista Park to Maggie Cramer Park. When bringing the item forward, Commissioner Turnbull informed the Commission that the request to make this change was being made by Councilman Bob Sagona. Staff contacted Councilman Sagona to get clarification on the item. Councilman Sagona will be presenting the recommendation.

The reasons outlined in the information sheet provide significant reasons for approval of the name change. Since the existing park, which was built in 2002, is geographically named, there should be no adverse effect on the community.

If the request is approved, there is an unbudgeted cost of approximately \$850.00 for the creation and shipping of a replacement sign. Staff can install the sign in house.

Attached are the following:

- 1) An information sheet regarding the request to rename the park.
- 2) The Naming of Parks and Facilities Policy - CS3.

Recommended Action:

Review request and recommend to the Town Council approval of the requested name change of Mountain Vista Park to Maggie Cramer Park.

Proposed by: Ralph Wright, Parks and Recreation Manager

Item Number: 3

T. M. Approval: _____

Budgeted Item Yes No N/A

Information Sheet on request to rename Mountain Vista Park in honor of Margaret “Maggie” Cramer.

Name of Requesting Party:

Councilman Bob Sagona

Address or Location of Existing Park:

Rimrock and Serrano

Proposed Name:

Maggie Cramer Park

Reasons for Name Change:

Maggie Cramer was a significant contributor in numerous volunteer and charity efforts to help raise funds and offer support to enhance the quality of life throughout the High Desert. To this end, Maggie Cramer was founder of the “Streams of the Desert,” forerunner to the Community Foundation.

In particular, for the Town of Apple Valley and the Parks and Recreation Department, Mrs Cramer was instrumental in starting the After School Activities Program that is offered at six Apple Valley schools. Additionally, Mrs. Cramer donated the land for the existing park.

Recommendation:

There is significant reason warranted to rename the park in honor of someone who has had a significant impact on the community for a significant number of years. Therefore, it is recommended that Mountain Vista Park is renamed in honor of Margaret “Maggie” Cramer.

TITLE: NAMING OF PARKS AND FACILITIES	NO: CS-3
APPROVED BY: Town Council	DATE: 01/08/08

Background

The naming or renaming of parks and recreational facilities is a intricate and often emotional process since assigning a name is a powerful and semi-permanent identity for a public place and/or facility. The naming or renaming of parks and/or recreation facilities often requires significant resources in terms of changing names on signs, maps, and literature. In addition, excessive and constant name changing can be a source of confusion to the public. The purpose of this policy is to give guidance to those that have an interest in the naming or renaming of the Town's parks and/or recreational facilities.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Town of Apple Valley to reserve the naming or renaming of parks and/or recreational facilities for circumstances that will best serve the interests of the town and ensure a worthy and enduring legacy for the Town's parks and/or recreational facilities.

To this end, the Town of Apple Valley supports consideration of naming requests within the following categories.

1. Geographic location.
2. Unique, significant and/or historical feature or people pertaining to the park/facility site.
3. Outstanding Individuals.
4. Community contributions by individuals.
 - a) If the contribution was to the Town, the contribution must have significant benefit to the community at large.
 - b) If the contribution was to the park/facility site itself, it must represent a majority of the cost involved to build the park/facility.
5. Other events.

General Principles

In considering proposals for the naming or renaming of a park and/or recreational facility, the following general principles will be taken into account either collectively or individually.

When naming a new park and/or recreational facility, the proposed name will:

- Engender a strong positive image.
- Be appropriate having regard to the parks/recreational facility's location and/or history.

- Have historical, cultural or social significance for future generations
- Commemorate places, people or events that are of continued importance to the town.
- Have broad public support.

Renaming an existing park and/or recreational facility

Proposals to rename a park and/or recreation facilities will only be considered when there are compelling reasons and strong public sentiment for doing so.

Procedures and Guidelines

All requests for the naming or renaming of a park and/or recreational facility shall be made in writing to the Town of Apple Valley, Attention: Community Services Manager

Requests should contain the following information at a minimum:

- Name and contact information of the person making the request
- The proposed name.
- Reasons for the proposed name.
- Description/map showing location of proposed park.
- If proposing to name a facility within a park, include a description/map showing the location of the facility.
- If proposing to rename a park or facility, include justification for changing established name.

Assessing and approving naming/renaming requests

Upon receipt of a naming request to the Town of Apple Valley, the Community Services Manager will review the request to ensure its adherence to the policies of the Town of Apple Valley and if applicable organize an informational meeting between the requesting party and appropriate town staff to discuss the proposal.

After the informational meeting, the proposal will be taken to the Park and Recreation Commission for review and recommendation. Lastly, the proposal will be taken to the Town Council for review and approval.