



Legislation Text

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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 6, 2015

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER /s/

DOCKET TITLE:

Public Hearing and Consideration of the Recommendation from the City Council Naming Committee on the Proposal to Name the Park Parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave the Nancy Dunning Garden.

ISSUE: Naming the park parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave the Nancy Dunning Garden.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council hold the public hearing and adopt the recommendation of the City Council Naming Committee to name the park parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave the Nancy Dunning Garden.

BACKGROUND: More than 25 years ago when Mt. Vernon Avenue ("The Avenue") was boarded up buildings with very few shops, residents had little reason to walk, shop or dine on The Avenue. Nancy Dunning, known as the "Queen of Del Ray," envisioned a different Avenue and dedicated her life to see it blossom and thrive. She worked tirelessly to lay the groundwork for Del Ray to become what it is today.

More than 10 years since her death, friends and family still hear new stories of acts of kindness that Nancy performed. She had a heart of gold and always went out of her way to help someone in need. The Del Ray Business Association is proud to recommend that one of the entrances to the heart of the Del Ray Business District be named after Nancy Dunning.

DISCUSSION: In response to the proposal from the Del Ray Business Association (Attachment 1), the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) solicited public comment on the proposed park renaming from October 31, 2014 through November 28, 2014 (Attachment 2).

Community members received notifications of the public comment period by City eNews, neighborhood canvassing of the eNews release, the RPCA website, and through "word of mouth" assistance from the Del Ray Business Association.

On April 13, 2015, the City Council Naming Committee (Councilwoman Del Pepper, Chair; Mayor William Euille; and Lance Mallamo, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria) held a meeting with representatives of the Del Ray Citizens Association to discuss the naming proposal. The City Council Naming Committee voted unanimously to recommend to City Council that the park parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave the Nancy Dunning Garden.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Proposal to Name the Park Parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave the Nancy Dunning Garden

Attachment 2 - Public Comments for the proposal to Name the Park Parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave the Nancy Dunning Garden

Attachment 3 - 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave. Park Parcel Site Map

STAFF:

Emily Baker, Acting Deputy City Manager

James Spengler, Director, Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

Jack Browand, Division Chief, Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities