

Excerpt from the City of Santa Barbara Municipal Code

Chapter 22.48

NAMING OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PRIVATE STREETS

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22.48.010 Purpose.

The City Council finds and determines that the public has an interest in the naming of public facilities, including parks, buildings and streets, owned or controlled by the City, that no consistent policy has been employed in the past in selecting the names of public facilities, that the renaming of facilities without due consideration in the context of established principles results in confusion and detracts from the honor accorded in naming a facility, and that, therefore, it is desirable and in the public interest to delineate the policies, principles and procedures for the selection of names and naming of public facilities. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)

22.48.020 Principles, Policies and Priorities.

The election of names for public facilities shall conform to the following principles, policies and priorities:

(a) As a general policy, names which commemorate the culture and history of Santa Barbara will be given first priority; those names commemorating California history may be given second priority;

(b) The name of an individual shall be considered only if such individual has made a particularly meritorious and outstanding contribution, over a period of several years, to the general public interest or the interests of the City;

(c) A preference shall be given to names of long established local usage, names which are euphonious, and names which lend dignity to the facility to be named;

(d) Names selected shall be of enduring, honorable fame, not notoriety, and shall be commensurate with the significance of the facility;

(e) Proliferation of names for different parts of the same facility should be avoided, and the same name should not be applied to a similar kind of facility;

(f) Names with connotations which by contemporary community standards are derogatory or offensive shall not be considered. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)

22.48.030 Change of Name.

Existing names and names once established shall not be changed unless, after investigation and public hearing, the name is found to be inappropriate. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)

22.48.040 Recommendations of Community or Citizen Groups.

In the selection of names for City owned facilities the suggestions, comments and recommendations of community or citizen groups and the citizens in the neighborhood of the facility shall be duly considered; provided, that such suggestions, comments and recommendations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)

22.48.050 Initiation.

Any person may initiate the naming of a City owned facility by submitting to the City Administrator a request for such action and setting forth the proposed name, a description of the facility, and a statement evidencing that the proposed name is consistent with the policies and guidelines of this chapter. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)

22.48.060 Review of Request - Referral.

The City Administrator shall review all requests to name a City owned facility and shall refer the request to the department having jurisdiction of such facility and the appropriate commission or committee for consideration of the request. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)

22.48.070 Hearing.

The commission or committee to which the City Administrator has referred a naming request pursuant to Section 22.48.060 shall hold a public hearing to consider the necessity or desirability of naming the facility, and the proposed name and any alternatives. Such commission or committee shall prepare a recommendation for action by the City Council. The recommendation shall include the name, if any, for the facility which is deemed most appropriate in accordance with the policies and guidelines of this chapter and the justification for the selection of such name. (Ord. 3485 §1(part), 1971.)