

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. 14080

ADOPTING A POLICY FOR NAMING CITY PROPERTY, FACILITIES  
AND STREETS

WHEREAS, it is the City of Alameda's goal to establish a uniform policy to name City facilities and portions thereof; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda is responsible for a variety of public facilities, including parks and park facilities, a golf complex, Alameda Power & Telecom facilities, libraries, Housing Authority facilities, fire stations, civic buildings, Police Department facilities, parking lots, ferry terminals, City streets and entryways to the City; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the policy is to honor persons, places, and/or events in the history of the City by naming City facilities after them; and

WHEREAS, the process established by this policy acknowledges and memorializes a specific person or event and enhances the value and heritage of the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alameda adopts the Policy for Naming City Property, Facilities and Streets attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alameda rescinds the previous Street Naming Policy and the Policy for Naming City Property, adopted October 1, 1991.

\* \* \* \* \*

Approved as to Form

  
City Attorney



**City of Alameda**  
California

*April 3, 2007*

**POLICY FOR NAMING CITY PROPERTY, FACILITIES AND  
STREETS**

**INTRODUCTION:**

It is the City of Alameda's goal to establish a uniform policy to name City facilities and portions thereof, including but not limited to: Parks and Park facilities, Golf Complex, Alameda Power & Telecom facilities, Libraries, Housing Authority facilities, fire stations, City Hall, Police Department facilities, parking lots, ferry terminals, City streets and entryways to the City.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to honor persons, places and/or events in the history of the City by naming City facilities after them. This process acknowledges and memorializes a specific person or event and enhances the value and heritage of the City.

**PROCEDURES:**

Boards and Commissions represent the community, and they have direct responsibility for various City facilities as prescribed in the City Charter and Alameda Municipal Code. It shall be the responsibility of the following Boards and Commissions to review the list of street and facility names annually and provide additions or deletions to the Historical Advisory Board. The Boards and Commissions most closely related to these facilities will, upon request from the City Council, make recommendations for potential names and the City Council will grant final approval.

Recreation Commission – City Parks, Swim Centers, Boat Ramps, and Associated Facilities

Golf Commission – Golf Complex and Associated Facilities

Public Utilities Board – Alameda Power & Telecom Facilities

Library Board – Libraries

Housing Commission – Housing Authority Facilities\*

Planning Board – Streets and all other City facilities

\*The Housing Authority of the City of Alameda is a separate legal entity from the City of Alameda. As such, the Authority Board will take action in lieu of the City Council in naming Housing Authority facilities.

Groups from within the community and individuals may make a recommendation to the Board or Commission at the time consideration is given to naming a facility and may initiate such action. The Board or Commission will then forward their recommendation to the City Council. If a facility does not have a connection to a Board or Commission, the Planning Board will be the body that recommends a name to the City Council.

The City Council will consider a recommendation from a Board or Commission and make the final decision to name a City property or facility at a public meeting in order to receive comments in an open forum.

The Historical Advisory Board will continue to maintain the List of Street and Facility Names, including available names and those that have been used. Additions or deletions to the list shall be recommended by the appropriate board or commission based on written documentation of the historic importance of the name in Alameda history and as outlined in this policy and then forwarded to the City Council for final approval. Only names that appear on the list of Street and Facility Names shall be utilized for the naming of new streets or renaming of existing streets. The Planning Board shall approve names for new streets.

**CRITERIA:**

In selecting the name for a City property, facility or street, the following criteria shall be used:

1. A name that reflects the location of the facility by geographic area;
2. A name that reflects the history of a facility such as the family name of the builder, developer or person who may have donated the land when the individual has been deceased a minimum of three years;
3. A name that recognizes a significant contributor to the advancement of the City, such as a former Mayor, Councilmember, Board or Commission Member, officers or employees of the City, or member of the community when the individual has been deceased a minimum of three years;
4. A name that recognizes the donor of a significant gift of land or funds for a City facility.

5. A name that is listed on the List of Street and Facility Names of the City of Alameda.
6. Only one name shall be used for each property or facility and all its various components.

### **NAMING STREETS:**

#### General Considerations for Naming Streets:

1. Priority shall be given to utilizing street names that represent persons, places or events associated with the historical development of the City of Alameda.
2. Where feasible and appropriate, historic street names shall be chosen which directly relate to that portion of the City in which the street to be named is located.
3. Consistency in naming shall be maintained within a Subdivision Tract, Planned Development, or other development or geographic area where street names themes currently exist, are planned or are discernible.
4. Street names shall remain the same across intersecting streets and throughout the length of the street.
5. The use of the same name but different suffices for adjacent streets shall be avoided, with the exception of a small court or cul-de-sac adjacent to a main road. For example, Brighton Court off Brighton Road.
6. A street name shall not intersect another street name at more than one location. The use of circle or loop as a suffix is not encouraged except under limited, specific design situations.
7. Similarly spelled or pronounced street names shall be avoided within the City.
8. The number of letters in the street name, including suffix, shall not exceed twenty characters and spaces in conformance with the 911 Emergency Communication Center system.

#### Designation:

1. In general, street names should include a suffix, such as those following, to clearly indicate that it is part of the vehicular circulation system and to minimize the possibility of confusion with development or project place names. Names lacking such suffices or ending in such words as Harbor, Isle, or Point are not encouraged, except to retain the continuity of established naming schemes. Names utilizing terms from other languages such as Embarcadero, Camino, Via and other non-typical names shall be considered individually for appropriateness, merit, and general conformance to this policy.

2. Cul-de-sac or short dead-end streets
  - a. Court
  - b. Place
  - c. Terrace
  - d. Square
  
3. Short connecting streets generally less than 1,000 feet in length.
  - a. Lane
  
4. Curvilinear streets, generally through or connecting and of higher capacity.
  - a. Drive
  - b. Way
  - c. Parkway
  - d. Boulevard
  
5. Street running diagonally to an established grid system
  - a. Road
  - b. Way
  
6. Generally north-south grid streets.
  - a. Street
  
7. Generally east-west streets.
  - a. Avenue

**RENAMING CITY PROPERTY FACILITIES AND STREETS:**

Should the City contemplate renaming a City property or facility, a comprehensive study shall be conducted to determine how the existing name was conceived, including an assessment of the impacts to the original honoree on renaming the facility, and the impact on the adjacent neighborhoods should the property be renamed. The appropriate Board or Commission shall review the study prior to making a recommendation to the City Council. At that time, it will be at the discretion of the City Council whether or not to rename a City property or facility.

Any change to an existing street name, which would affect the addressing of any existing business or residence, shall require City Council in addition to Planning Board approval.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda during the Regular Meeting of the City Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2007, by the following vote to wit:

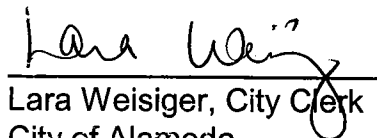
AYES: Councilmembers deHaan, Gilmore, Matarrese, Tam  
and Mayor Johnson - 5.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007.

  
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Lara Weisiger, City Clerk  
City of Alameda