

**CITY OF LA VISTA
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT
APRIL 5, 2011 AGENDA**

Subject:	Type:	Submitted By:
PARK NAME APPROVAL	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	SCOTT STOPAK RECREATION DIRECTOR

SYNOPSIS

A resolution has been prepared to clarify and officially name two of the City's existing parks.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of staff recommendation.

BACKGROUND

During the recent project to develop mini-park plans for the City's existing parks it was determined that two of the parks have been referred to by multiple names. In an effort to clarify the names, in accordance with the Council Policy Statement (attached for your review), the Park and Recreation Advisory Board held a public hearing and discussed this at their March 16, 2011 meeting. The two parks in question are the new park in the Val Verde subdivision and the park at 72nd & Josephine Street.

The park in Val Verde is referred to as Centennial Park in the City's master park plan but is known as Val Verde Park in most other contexts. (There is no sign at this park and nothing official has been done to name the park.) The park located at 72nd & Josephine currently has a sign designating it as Vista Children's Memorial Park; however the Master Park Plan identifies it as Memorial Children's Park. (This park was also known as "Tire Park" in the past.)

Additionally, you will recall that in conjunction with the Arbor Day and La Vista 50 celebration last year a new concept for Champion Park was unveiled that included a true memorial park concept. For this reason it was staff's recommendation that the "memorial" designation be removed from the name of the park at 72nd & Josephine to avoid confusion. The Park and Recreation Advisory Board is recommending that the official park names be Val Verde Park and Children's Memorial Park.

Staff is recommending the official park names be Val Verde Park and Children's Park and has prepared the resolution accordingly.

Staff concurs with the recommended "Val Verde Park" name, but has a different recommendation for "Vista Memorial Children's Park". Because of the plan to designate "Champion Park" as a true memorial park, leaving the word "memorial" in the park name is confusing. As such, the staff recommendation is "Children's Park".

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, NEBRASKA CLARIFYING AND OFFICIALLY NAMING TWO OF THE CITY'S EXISTING PARKS.

WHEREAS, the City determined that the park in the Val Verde subdivision and the park at 72nd & Josephine Street have been referred to by multiple names; and

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board held a public hearing at their meeting on March 16, 2011 to discuss the names as required by the Council Policy Statement and staff reviewed the names; and

WHEREAS, the official park names will be Val Verde Park (in Val Verde subdivision) and Children's Park (at 72nd & Josephine Street);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of La Vista, Nebraska does hereby officially name the park in the Val Verde subdivision Val Verde Park; and the park at 72nd & Josephine Street Children's Park.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 5TH DAY OF APRIL, 2011.

CITY OF LA VISTA

Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Buethe, CMC
City Clerk

**CITY OF LA VISTA
COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT**

**NAMING A CITY PARK OR
RECREATION FACILITY**

Issued: January 3, 1996
Resolution No. 96-001
Updated: November 4, 2003
Resolution No. 03-105

All City of La Vista parks and recreational facilities shall be identified by a name established the Mayor and City Council.

The following procedure shall be used in naming a city park or recreational facility:

Prior to the approval of a name for a city park or recreational facility, the La Vista Park and Recreation Advisory Board shall be requested to provide a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council.

The La Vista Park and Recreation Advisory Board shall hold a public hearing to insure input from all citizens in the community prior to making a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council.

Generally, the Mayor and City Council discourage the naming of a new or existing parks after any individual (living or deceased" because there is a significantly larger number of individuals who play important roles in the community than there are new parks to be named. Notwithstanding the above, the Mayor and City Council reserve the right to make exceptions to this policy upon a unanimous vote of all members of the City Council.

Prior to the naming of any neighborhood park, the Mayor and City Council shall consider the name of the subdivision (i.e. Ardmore, Apple Grove, etc.) for use as the park's name.

The Mayor and City Council reserve the right to reject any or all names submitted to it by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board.