



Legislation Text

File #: HCC-29-FY21, **Version:** 1

Submitted by: Laura Reams
Submitting Department: Administration
Agenda Section: Discussion

Item Title:

Renaming of Magruder Park: Public Engagement Action Plan

Suggested Action:

For Discussion

Summary Background:

The City Council passed a motion on March 18th, 2019 that:

- a) Authorized the City Attorney to investigate the feasibility of, and legal requirements for, changing the name of Magruder Park.
- b) Authorized the City Attorney to investigate the feasibility of and legal requirements for updating the deed to exclude the offensive language as defined in the motion summary background details and effectively remove any restrictions on use of the public amenity that would be considered discriminatory as defined by the Hyattsville Human Rights Act.
- c) Directed the City Administrator to assist the City Council by preparing recommendations, based on the tools available to the City of Hyattsville, to encourage a public engagement process.

The City Attorney worked with outside counsel to prepare and record in the land records a deed, and other required documentation, that removes the discriminatory language contained in the original Park conveyance.

With the completion of parts a) and b), the staff is providing the following recommendations for Council discussion. Recommendations comply with the motion directive and are intended to engage the community in the process to select a name for the park that is welcoming, inclusive, and unifying.

- a) Announce the Name Selection Challenge and timeline in the Hyattsville Life and Times, on Social Media, and in the Green Sheet. The announcements will ask the public to provide input through the City's customer service phone line, City website, a suggestion box at the park, or by email to ParkName@Hyattsville.org [<mailto:ParkName@Hyattsville.org>](mailto:ParkName@Hyattsville.org).
- b) The Communications Department will collect, sort, and consolidate the information and provide it to two (2) of our Committees. The staff recommends requesting support from the Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee and the Race and Equity Task Force. Others may be interested.
- c) The Committees will select their top five (5) recommendations. The final three (3) to five (5) recommendations may be provided to our residents in the Green Sheet which may have tear-away, pre-paid postage for return to the municipal building.
- d) Public hearing or kick-off meeting optional.

Next Steps:

Council discussion on the outreach strategy for the renaming of Magruder Park.

Fiscal Impact:

TBD

City Administrator Comments:

For discussion as stated above.

Community Engagement:

All efforts will be made to engage the public.

Strategic Goals:

Goal 5 - Strengthen the City's Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community

Legal Review Required?

Ongoing