



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Reuben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer, Planning and Development Services
Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Naming “Skip Vaughn’s Trail” between S. 80th and S. 84th Streets –
October 10, 2017
DATE: October 2, 2017

SUMMARY:

The Landmarks Preservation Commission recommends to City Council that the new, currently unnamed, trail between S. 80th and S. 84th Streets be named “Skip Vaughn’s Trail,” based upon its review of a naming request made by the Environmental Services Department and the City Council Policy on Place Names and Name Changes (Council Resolution 38091).

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

This request originated with the South Tacoma Neighborhood Council in recognition of one of Tacoma’s most engaged and civically active residents, Skip Vaughn.

BACKGROUND:

The Office of Environmental Services is requesting to name the new trail, between South 80th Street and South 84th Street, “Skip Vaughn’s Trail.” The currently unnamed trail was recently constructed at the 80th Street Regional Stormwater Holding Basin. The South Tacoma Neighborhood Council, of which Vaughn was president, nominated the naming of the trail to honor Vaughn on April 27, 2017.

Skip Vaughn was known for his activism in the neighborhood around the trail. Newspaper articles highlighting Vaughn’s contributions, including his advocacy and financial support for the Wapato Hills Park and open space in Tacoma, are included in the packet. He was also known as the “father” of the neighborhood council program. In 2002, the Washington State Senate honored Skip Vaughn for his activism. Mr. Vaughn passed away in March 2016.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission received the request on July 26, 2017 and held a public hearing on August 23, 2017. All written and oral comments received were in support of the proposal. On September 27, 2017, the Commission voted to recommend the name change to City Council.

ALTERNATIVES:

An alternative name could be sought for this trail, which is currently unnamed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff concurs with the Landmarks Preservation Commission recommendation to name the new unnamed trail “Skip Vaughn’s Trail,” as it is a fitting tribute to Mr. Vaughn’s neighborhood legacy and is consistent with the guidelines set forth in the Council Naming Policy.