



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Peter Huffman, Planning and Development Services
COPY: Members of the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee; Kurtis Kingsolver, P.E.; Rebecca Boydston
PRESENTER: Reuben McKnight, Planning and Development Services
SUBJECT: Renaming the Rhone Poulenc salt marsh, at 1747 Port of Tacoma Road, to q^wiq^wəlut
DATE: July 24, 2019

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Request for Resolution

SUMMARY:

On August 7, 2019, staff will present the Landmarks Preservation Commission's recommendation to rename the Rhone Poulenc salt marsh, located at 1747 Port of Tacoma Road, to q^wiq^wəlut, per the Commission's review per the Council Policy on Place Names and Name Changes.

BACKGROUND:

350 Tacoma, in consultation with the Puyallup Tribe and the City of Tacoma Environmental Services, is requesting to rename the Rhone Poulenc salt marsh, located at 1747 Port of Tacoma Road, to q^wiq^wəlut. This is a Twulshootseed name that translates to "little marsh." The name change would reflect the ecological and cultural history of the site. The Twulshootseed name was suggested by the Puyallup Language Program. Over the last year, outreach about the name change was conducted during restoration/reclaiming events led by 350 Tacoma and Earth Corps, with participation from the City of Tacoma. The current name, Rhone Poulenc, comes from a French pharmaceutical company, which no longer operates at this site. After the name change, the intention is to work with the Puyallup Tribe on interpretive signage.

On April 24, 2019, the Landmarks Preservation Commission voted to schedule the request for public hearing, and on May 23, 2019, the Commission held its hearing. The comment period has remained open for 30 days. On July 10, 2019, the Commission voted to recommend Council approval of the name change.

ISSUE:

The naming request is intended to recognize the Puyallup Tribe's current and historical presence in the area, reflect the area's ecological history, and demonstrate the City's ongoing commitment to strengthening the relationship between the Puyallup Tribe and the City.

ALTERNATIVES:

The marsh could retain its current name.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Limited fiscal impacts are anticipated, and would include the costs associated with the changing of signs and updating GIS maps and data layers. No addresses are impacted.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Landmarks Preservation Commission recommends that the City of Tacoma rename the Rhone Poulenc salt marsh, located at 1747 Port of Tacoma Road, to q^wiq^wəlut, per the Council Policy on Place Names and Name Changes; staff concurs with this recommendation.