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December 13, 2022

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Subject: **Recommendation of Supervisor Vianey Lopez to Name the Lewis Road Park In Honor of Retiring County Supervisor Linda Parks, subject to unanimous approval by the Board of Supervisors.**

Recommendation:

Approve the naming of the Lewis Road Park (1736 S. Lewis Road, Camarillo) to "Linda Parks Park" in honor of County Supervisor Linda Parks, subject to unanimous approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the recommendation of authorizing the naming the Lewis Road Park.

Discussion:

County Supervisor Linda Parks has been a longtime champion for parks and open space, as well as a tireless advocate for addressing mental health challenges in Ventura County. These two passions intersected when the County's 55-acre Lewis Road property was redistricted into her supervisorial district, and she was able to realize a vision of a place where people in need of peace and restoration could be housed and helped.

Supervisor Parks' vision for the Lewis Road property includes the pending development of additional special needs housing, an overarching master plan that will connect the various uses, and a restorative and informative demonstration garden park. One of her biggest accomplishments was establishing the Growing Works Nursery, a non-profit nursery that provides horticultural therapy and job training for people with mental health challenges. She was also instrumental in the vision, partnerships and coordination for the County's Lewis Road property that includes a mental health rehabilitation center, housing for vulnerable populations including older adults with mental health challenges, a community central hub in the renovated barn, Growing Works Nursery, and the 2-acre County park.

Earlier this year, our Board approved Supervisor Parks' recommendation to make the planned demonstration garden a County park, and appropriated funds for its development

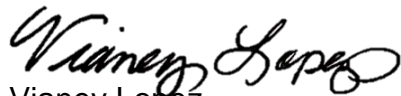
by the County Parks Department. The garden park will operate in conjunction with the adjacent Growing Works nonprofit native plant nursery, which serves both the special needs community and the native habitat restoration needs of Ventura County.

The County of Ventura Administrative Manual (Chapter IV, Section A, Policy No. 5 – County Building/Facility Naming Policy) states, in part, “the Board is the responsible authority for naming County facilities and buildings or portions thereof,” including “parks and park facilities,” and outlines the process for submitting, considering, and approving nominations.

Supervisor Parks has served five terms as County Supervisor, retiring with twenty years of public service to the County of Ventura. As a strong advocate of parks and open space, as well as being a strong advocate for mental health services, it is recommended that the Lewis Road Park be named “Linda Parks Park” in her honor. Supporters sending letters include City of Camarillo Mayor Susan Santangelo, Roberta Griego, Executive Director of NAMI Ventura County, and Dr. Richard Yao, President of California State University Channel Islands. There will be additional letters of support provided by California State Assemblymember Steve Bennett, City of Oxnard Mayor John Zaragoza, City of Thousand Oaks Councilmember Claudia Bill de la Peña, and Mary Wiesbrock, Chair of Save Open Space.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller’s Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please call my office at (805) 654-2613.

Sincerely,



Vianey Lopez
Supervisor, District 5

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – County Building/Facility Naming Policy
- Exhibit 2 – Letter of Support from Camarillo Mayor Santangelo
- Exhibit 3 – Letter of Support from Roberta Griego, NAMI
- Exhibit 4 – Letter of Support from Dr. Yao, CSUCI
- Exhibit 5 - Map of Park Location