



COUNCIL AGENDA: 06-02-09  
ITEM: 2.7

## Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** LEE PRICE, MMC  
CITY CLERK

**SUBJECT:** RECOMMENDATION TO  
NAME A FACILITY

**DATE:** May 11, 2009

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### RECOMMENDATION

As recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission, to rename a new facility located at 110 N. Jackson Street Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center.

### BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Council Policy 7-5 the City Clerk receives nominations for naming of public facilities, which are forwarded to the appropriate Commission(s) for review and recommendation. The process calls for the Commission(s) to hold a public hearing on nominations prior to forwarding a recommendation to the City Council.

### ANALYSIS

On May 6, 2009, the Parks and Recreation Commission held a public hearing to consider nominations for the naming of a new facility in Council District 3 located at 110 N. Jackson Street. At this meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council that the facility be named Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center.

### PUBLIC OUTREACH

The Parks and Recreation Commission held the Public Hearing on May 6, 2009.

### COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department.

LEE PRICE, MMC  
CITY CLERK



*Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services*

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

May 7, 2009

Lee Price, City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk  
City of San José  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San José, CA 95113

Dear Lee Price:

Re: Recommendation to the City Council to name a new facility located at 110 N. Jackson Street **Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center.**

On May 6, 2009, the Parks and Recreation Commission (hereafter, Commission) held a public hearing to consider the nominations for the naming of a new facility in Council District 3 located at 110 N. Jackson Street. At this meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council that the facility be named Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center.

Therefore, I am requesting that this item be agendized for Council consideration at the May 19, 2009 1:30 p.m. Council meeting.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you have any questions, please call Simeon Mercado at 408-793-5526.

Sincerely,

Melanie Richardson, Chair  
Parks and Recreation Commission

cc: Sam Liccardo, Council District 3  
Albert Balagso, PRNS  
Julie Edmonds-Mares, PRNS  
Mike Will, Park Manager

2009 MAY 11 P 3:24

RECEIVED  
San Jose City Clerk



# Memorandum

**TO:** Albert Balagso, Director  
Parks, Recreation and  
Neighborhood Services

**FROM:** Lee Price, MMC  
City Clerk

**SUBJECT: NAMING OF CITY-OWNED  
FACILITIES**

**DATE:** 01-14-09

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**PROPOSAL: City-Owned Facility Nomination for Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center located at 110 N. Jackson Street. Submitted by Wesley K. Mukoyama dated December 22, 2008.**

Council Policy No. 7-5 entitled "Naming of City-Owned Land and Facilities" calls for a Nomination Form to be submitted to the City Clerk, who will then forward the information to the appropriate Commission for review. The Policy calls for a Public Hearing to be held to solicit public comment on the proposal after which the Commission's recommendation is submitted to the City Clerk who then forwards the recommendation to the City council for consideration.

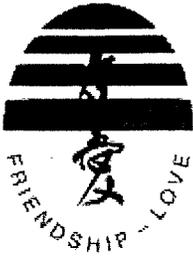
Please initiate the process to consider the naming of this site by forwarding the attached information to the Parks and Recreation Commission and scheduling the matter for a public hearing. As soon as I receive the Commission's recommendation, I will forward it to the City Council for consideration.

Thank you in advance for your review of this Nomination and please let me know if you have any questions.

LEE PRICE, MMC  
CITY CLERK

LP:np

*Yu-Ai Kai*



YU-AI KAI  
JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SENIOR SERVICE  
588 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, San Jose, California 95112 (408) 294-2505

December 16, 2008

City Clerks Office  
City of San Jose  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

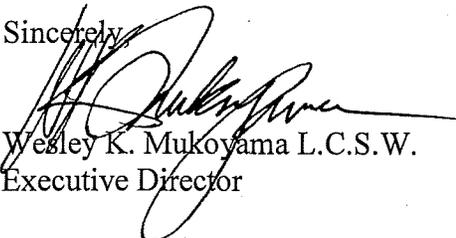
Dear Sir or Madam,

Yu-Ai Kai/ Japanese American Community Senior Service is submitting a nomination form for the naming of a City-owned Facility. We are requesting naming the former Boys & Girls Club located at 110 N. Jackson Street, San Jose, CA 95112, the Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center.

Our organization will be submitting letters of support from the Japantown Community as well as from various groups and individuals in the Japantown area. Our organization was able to proceed with the building of the Wellness Center due to Dr. James Akiyama's generous gift. The naming of the facility in his honor will recognize his generous contribution. Attached is a newspaper article of his biography and his donation.

Thank you for considering this proposal.

Sincerely,



Wesley K. Mukoyama L.C.S.W.  
Executive Director

Cc: Councilman Sam Liccardo



# CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

## Naming of City-Owned Facilities

### NOMINATION FORM

Person Submitting Nomination: WESLEY K. MUKOYAMA

Address: YU-AI KAI/JAPANESE AMERICAN Daytime Phone: (408) 294-2505  
COMMUNITY SENIOR SERVICE  
488 NORTH FOURTH ST. SAN JOSE, CA 95112

Name Proposed for Facility: <sup>DR. HISTORIC</sup> ~~DR. HISTORIC~~ JAMES AKIYAMA WELLNESS CENTER <sup>X</sup>

Location of Facility: 110 JACKSON ST. - BETWEEN 2ND & 3RD ST.  
(Include street address, cross street)  
SAN JOSE, CA 95112

Nature of Facility to be Named: (Describe use, clientele and any special geographic or historic characteristics)

X

Is this site/structure of potential historic significance? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please submit parcel number and a summary of bibliographical resources.

*The facility was built in 1951*

Appropriateness of Name to Facility: (Briefly characterize the nominated individual, group, event or feature. Describe why naming would be appropriate. If the facility is proposed to be named after an individual, attach no more than one page outlining a brief biography and significant contributions to the community.)

Submit Nomination to: City Clerk, San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

**FOR CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY**

Referred to the following Commission or Committee:

Airport \_\_\_\_\_ Arts \_\_\_\_\_ Child Care \_\_\_\_\_ Disability Advisory \_\_\_\_\_ Historic Landmarks \_\_\_\_\_  
Library \_\_\_\_\_ Parking Advisory \_\_\_\_\_ Parks & Recreation \_\_\_\_\_ Senior Citizens \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

06 - 25 - 2008

## Yu-Ai Kai Receives \$700,000 Bequest

Posted in



Dr. Hajime James Akiyama

SAN JOSE — Yu-Ai Kai/ Japanese American Community Senior Service announces the gift of approximately \$700,000 from the estate of Dr. Hajime James Akiyama.

This is the largest private donation received by Yu-Ai Kai.

Although Akiyama had received “meals on wheels” from Yu-Ai Kai for a short period before his passing, his bequest was a surprise, said Wes Mukoyama, executive director of Yu-Ai Kai. “This is his acknowledgment of his appreciation to the Japanese American community at large, and Yu-Ai Kai is extremely grateful to be remembered.”

Akiyama was born in Watsonville on Nov. 20, 1927 and passed quietly on April 4, 2007 in Santa Clara at the age of 80. He spent his high school years in an internment camp in Topaz, Utah during World War II and earned his bachelor’s degree at San Jose State University in 1952 and his master’s degree and his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley.

He joined the faculty at San Jose State University in 1963 as a professor in microbiology and immunology, and remained there until his retirement in 1983.

Widowed in 1992, he spent his retirement golfing and traveling. He visited Japan, Indonesia, Hong Kong and South America, toured China with celebrated chef Martin Yan, took golf vacations to Hawaii, and rode a motorcycle to Mexico in his younger days.

Akiyama was predeceased by his parents, Reisque and Kikue Akiyama, of Kobe and an older sister, Sadoko Akiyama, of Watsonville.

He golfed weekly with Sunol Valley Golf Club and Santa Teresa Golf Club. The two groups also received gifts from Akiyama’s estate. The clubs will participate in SJSU head judo coach Yoshihiro Uchida’s annual golf tournament, which benefits the university’s judo program. The clubs’ members view this as a fitting tribute as Akiyama spent his academic career there.

Mukoyama said that he hopes the bequest will be a catalyst toward meeting the goals of the current capital campaign for funding of the new Wellness Center in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley.

Because Yu-Ai Kai serves 3,000 seniors annually through its nutrition program, classes and social services, there is a need to expand. The new facility will enable Yu-Ai Kai to increase its wellness and intergenerational programs with youths from BGCSV, who will share the facility.

Yu-Ai Kai is planning to provide fitness classes for younger baby boomer seniors as well as older seniors in their 70s, 80s, 90s and beyond, nutrition classes, health education classes, programs that attract senior men, and hospital recovery groups.

For more information, call (408) 294-2505 or visit

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