



Memorandum

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION

FROM: Evelyn Velez-Rosario

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: 10-27-08

Approved

Date

Council District: 02
SNI: N/A

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR NAMING OF THREE (3) NEW PARKS AT THE
HITACHI TRANSIT VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT SITE**

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the names “RAMAC Park” (10.6-acre community park site), “Raleigh Linear Green” (5.37-acre linear park site) and “Charlotte Commons” (one-acre neighborhood park site) for the three (3) park sites located on the Hitachi Transit Village site.

BACKGROUND

The City will be acquiring approximately 17 acres on three separate park sites on the Hitachi Transit Village residential development site as part of the dedication process through the Parkland Dedication Ordinance (PDO). To fulfill its PDO obligation for Tentative Map No. PT05-108, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Inc. (“Developer”) will dedicate and improve these park sites in conformance with a conceptual master plan previously approved by the City. The sites are currently under construction and improvements are expected to be completed by December 2008.

A number of community meetings have been held with local residents and other interested parties to discuss the design/development of the Hitachi Transit Village concept. On April 15, 2006, a community meeting introducing the project zoning and planned development proposals was held at City Hall. A follow-up meeting in May 2006 further discussed the project proposal and solicited additional comment from the community.

On August 15, 2006, Hitachi in conjunction with City staff, conducted a community meeting to specifically discuss proposed public recreation facilities associated with the Hitachi Transit Village proposal. This meeting was noticed to the community within 1,000 feet of the proposed

development and noticed as a display ad in the San Jose Mercury News. Additionally, the Parks and Recreation Commission held two study sessions on February 21 and March 7, 2007, to discuss the proposed parks and recreation proposals for the Hitachi property. A mailer was sent to approximately 7,000 residents near the project site to advertise these meetings. The Commission conducted a final public hearing on the proposed Hitachi park sites on March 7, 2007, at which time the Commission recommended approval of three conceptual park sites as presented at the meeting.

ANALYSIS

City Policy Number 7-5, revised November 23, 1993, establishes Council policy regarding the determination of names to be given to City-owned land and facilities. Per the Policy, the City encourages naming that:

- reflects the City's ethnic and cultural diversity;
- recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the local, national or global community;
- recognizes distinct geographic, environmental or developmental features, or names of historical significance; and
- recognizes individuals for their service to the community.

The names nominated are associated with the following background descriptions:

- The IBM 305 RAMAC (Random Access Method of Accounting and Control), introduced in 1956 is recognized as the first commercial computer that used a moving head hard disk drive for secondary storage.
- Raleigh is connected to the IBM campus as it was the name of a private campus street, and is also the name of the new public street on which the 5.37-acre linear park is located.
- Charlotte is also connected to the IBM campus as it was the name of a private campus street, and is also the name of the new public street on which the one-acre park is located.

In the past, many of San José's parks have been named with distinct geographic or location features in mind (such as adjacent street names/locations, names of nearby landmarks or other features). Staff has submitted the names "RAMAC Park," "Raleigh Linear Green," and "Charlotte Commons" for consideration by the Commission.

EVELYN VELEZ-ROSARIO
Park Manager

Attachments