



**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICY ON
PUBLIC PLACE NAMES AND NAME CHANGES
AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 5865
AND COUNCIL BILL #763-76**

WHEREAS, the City Council finds the following:

1. The City of Everett has many public facilities used for a variety of public purposes.
2. Everett has a long history of citizen involvement, including citizens who have unselfishly contributed their time, talents, energy and resources to make Everett a better place to live, work, visit and enjoy.
3. The City has a tradition of naming public facilities for citizens who have made outstanding contributions to the community.
4. The City desires to establish a predictable process for establishing or changing the name of public facilities within the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1: Policy

A formal policy is hereby adopted establishing the process used to confer a specific name on a given City building, facility, structure, park, public place, natural feature or street within the City limits of the City of Everett or owned by the City. This policy also applies in reviewing or preparing the City's official comments or recommendations to State, Federal and/or intergovernmental boards taking actions regarding geographic names, naming or renaming.

The City Council shall designate the names of any City building, facility, structure, park, public place, natural feature or street by resolution. Prior to any final action by the City Council, any proposal made by the Mayor, City Council member or any citizen or interested group shall be reviewed, and recommendations made to the City Council through the following procedures.

Section 2: Procedure

A. The Mayor, City Council member or any citizen or interested group may request the naming or renaming of a City building, facility, structure, park, public place, natural feature or street. Requests must be made in writing to the Mayor's Office, accompanied by sufficient information to demonstrate how the proposal complies with the provisions of this policy. Upon receipt of the request, the Mayor's Office shall provide notification of the request to the City Council; the Historical Commission; the Parks Commission for requests involving parks; the Transportation Advisory Committee for requests involving streets; and such other advisory bodies including the Cultural Commission as appropriate to the request

B. The Mayor's Office will review the request and if it determines the request is inconsistent with this policy, it shall forward the request to the City Council with a recommendation to deny the request. Upon reviewing the recommendation from the Mayor's Office, the City Council will have the prerogative of denying the request or directing the request to the Historical Commission for further consideration. When directed to the Historical Commission, Council will provide an explanation of its reasons for sending it to the Commission. If the Mayor's Office determines the request is consistent with this policy, then it will refer the request to the Historical Commission.

C. The Historical Commission shall have primary responsibility for coordinating public review of all requests for naming or renaming of a City building, facility, structure, park, public place, natural feature or street. The Historical Commission shall solicit recommendations from other advisory bodies within the City as appropriate and coordinate public involvement and review of such requests with that body.

D. The Historical Commission shall provide notice as set forth in review process V, as defined in EMC Chapter 15.24, before taking action on any naming or renaming of a City building, facility, structure, park, public place, natural feature or street. Following its public process, the Historical Commission shall forward a recommendation to the City Council.

E. In all cases, the City Council will have the prerogative to take final action, approving, denying, changing or remanding the request back to the Historical Commission for further review. Such a remand may be pursued only if the City Council finds that an error in the process occurred at the Historical Commission hearing(s) or if the City Council determines that significant new information has been made available since the time of the Historical Commission process, which would likely have affected the Historical Commission's recommendation. In the event of a remand, the Council will provide an explanation of its reasons for returning it to the Commission.

F. The City Council, upon receipt of a recommendation from the Historical Commission, shall hold a public hearing prior to any final action.

G. The City Council shall take action by resolution on the naming or renaming.

H. The Mayor, upon approval of the naming or renaming action by the City Council, shall implement names or name changes of City buildings, streets, public places, facilities, and/or natural features. The Mayor shall notify those who have submitted the suggestion as well as other appropriate offices and agencies. Upon City Council denial of a name or name change, the Mayor shall notify those who sponsored the name change.

I. The Mayor will notify the Historical Commission of any approval or denial action taken by the City Council.

Section 3: Eligibility and Criteria

Recognizing that the naming or renaming of a City building, public place, facility, structures, parks or natural feature or the renaming of a City street should be approached cautiously with forethought and deliberation, the following criteria are established. The Historical Commission and City Council shall consider the criteria stated herein as guidance in making a decision:

A. In the development or purchase of a City facility, the address designation shall be used until the formal naming of the public facility. Whenever possible, naming shall be made prior to completion of construction or purchase of the facility.

B. Naming of new streets during the platting or other land use process need not follow this policy pursuant to EMC 13.44. This policy shall be used for changing the name of existing streets. Attention should be paid to maintaining sequential, numerical, alphabetical, and historical naming patterns when considering any street name changes.

C. Street names, plats, specific sites and places and natural features indicated on general usage maps for fifty years or more should only be changed under exceptional circumstances.

D. Renaming proposals of a City building, street, public place, facility, structure, park or natural area that has already been attributed to a person shall not be considered unless it is found that continued use of their name would not be in the best interest of the community.

E. This policy shall not preclude a specific City building, public space, facility, structure, park or natural area that has been officially named pursuant to this policy from being included in a larger grouping of properties or district that has a different name for the larger grouping of properties or district.

F. Portions of a City building, street, public space, facility, structure, park or natural area may have another name than that of the entire location, for example, the "Mark Nesse Reading Room" at the Everett Public Library.

G. Historical names placed on designated landmarks, such as the "Culmback" building, listed on the Everett Register of Historical Places, the Washington State Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Places should not be changed unless it is found that a more historically significant name is warranted. Changes to facilities listed on historic registers must also comply with relevant state and federal regulations and processes.

H. Proposals shall be reviewed to avoid duplication, confusing similarity or inappropriateness.

I. Proposed name change may reflect the geographical location, historical or cultural significance, or natural or geological features or, may be attributed to a living or

deceased person (one or more years), civic organization, or commercial entity if there is a specific connection to the property and if the person or entity has enhanced the quality of life within the city. Enhancement of the quality of life within the City shall be determined by meeting one or more of the following criteria:

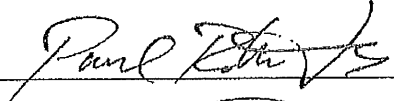
1. Involvement in a leadership role in civic organizations which are devoted to community improvement.
2. Assistance to the underprivileged, economically disadvantaged, physically and/or developmentally disabled.
3. Actively promoted and directed community events and activities which have clearly added to the enrichment of the quality of cultural life within the community.
4. Actively promoted and implemented youth programs and activities within the community.
5. Actively promoted and implemented senior citizen programs and activities within the community.
6. Assumed an active leadership role in developing and implementing programs directed to the improvement of the visual aesthetic appearance of the community at the commercial, public or residential level.
7. Assumed an active leadership role in developing programs and/or facilities for collecting, promoting and retaining aspects of the natural or historical heritage of the community.
8. Assumed an active leadership role in developing programs and facilities directed toward the improvement of community social and health needs as well as programs directed toward humanitarian purposes
9. Assumed an active leadership role in developing programs or public facilities directed toward the physical improvement or economic well-being of the community.
10. Made a significant direct financial grant to the City for purposes of developing any of these locations.

Section 4: Council Action.

The City Council, after consideration of the criteria in Section 3 and public comment, may elect to name or rename any City building, public place, facility, structure, park or natural feature or rename a street contrary to the provisions of this policy if it determines there is sufficient reason to take such action. Such action by Council shall be by resolution.

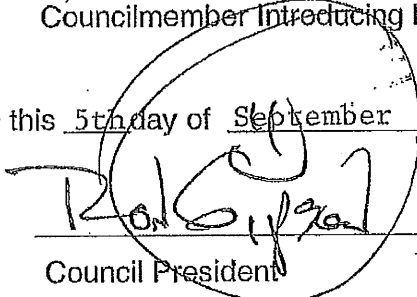
Section 5: Repealer.

Resolution No. 5865 and Council Bill # 763-76 are hereby repealed.



Councilmember Introducing Resolution

PASSED and APPROVED this 5th day of September, 2012



Council President