

CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010
AGENDA ITEM No.11B

Oral Staff Reports

Re-Naming of the Little League Ball Field at Martin Luther
King Jr. Park Request
(Meda Okelo, Director- Community Services Department)



City of East Palo Alto

Community Services Department

Administrative Report

Date: March 2, 2010

To: Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council.
Via: Alvin D. James, City Manager
From: Meda Okelo, Director of Community Services.
Subject: Information regarding the Martin Luther King Jr. Park and the Little League Field.

Background:

At the City Council's last meeting on February 16, 2010, included under "written Communications", was a letter submitted on behalf of the East Palo Alto Council of Tenants Education Fund (EPACT) by its President Mr. William Byron Webster requesting that the ball field at Martin Luther King Park be named after the late Mr. Tommie Roberts. At the same meeting, during Community Forum, Mr. Webster noted that he had since learnt from staff that the City Council on April 15, 1985 adopted resolution 175 renaming the East Palo Alto Little League Baseball Field the Evans-Roberts Field in acknowledgement and appreciation for the efforts of both Mr. Peter Evans (now Councilmember Peter Evans) and Mr. Tommie Roberts for their "outstanding and untiring efforts on behalf of our children over the past eighteen years."

History of the Martin Luther King Jr. Park, from the City's perspective, goes back to April 16 1984 when the new City Council in its tenth month as the primary legislative body of the city adopted Resolution #92 approving the application for Land and Water Conservation Funds for the "Martin Luther King Park Acquisition Project". A year later on April 15, 1985 the City Council adopted both resolutions 174 and 175 respectively naming the 5.43 acre parcel at the end of Daily Lane "Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and the East Palo Alto Little League Baseball Field located within the park, the Evans-Roberts Field.

Discussion:

This report's intent is to provide the council with a copy of Resolution 175 with the understanding that a formal response with recommendations as to possible council action options would be forthcoming at a future meeting.

Attachment: Resolution 175

00175

RESOLUTION NO. _____,

**RESOLUTION RENAMING THE EAST PALO ALTO
LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL FIELD
THE EVANS-ROBERTS FIELD**

WHEREAS, the City of East Palo Alto recognizes and honors those citizens who make outstanding contributions to the City and its people; and

WHEREAS, the City of East Palo Alto has acquired the land upon which the Little League Baseball Field is located; and

WHEREAS, this Little League Baseball Field is a part of a larger parcel which has been designated the Martin Luther King Jr. Park; and

WHEREAS, Little League Baseball in the City of East Palo Alto has provided a focal point for community cooperation for one of our most precious resources; our youths; and

WHEREAS, many Little League alumni have benefitted from their participation in this program and gone forward to make important contributions to their families, the community, the sport of baseball, and other fields of professional endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the Little League Baseball program in the City of East Palo Alto owes its existence primarily to two local residents: Peter Evans and Tommie Roberts; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to acknowledge its appreciation to Peter Evans and Tommy Roberts for their outstanding and untiring efforts on behalf of our children over the past eighteen years by renaming the Little League Baseball Field the Evans-Roberts Field in their honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of East Palo Alto that the Little League Baseball field located in Martin Luther King, Jr., Park shall be renamed as Evans-Roberts Field.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of April, 1985, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES: *Blahay et*

ABSENT: *Moulton*

2-0

Barbara A. Mouton
Barbara A. Mouton
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frederic A. Howell
Frederic A. Howell
City Clerk