



Legislation Text

File #: RES 21-614, **Version:** 1

Establishing names for four new parks in the Highland Bridge development.

WHEREAS, the Highland Bridge development (Ford site) includes the establishment and development of four new public parks; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation led a community process to design and name this new parkland; and

WHEREAS, these four park parcels Park A, Park B, Park C, and Park D were established by a plat in 2020 with the intention of formal naming in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Park A is located at 2290 Ford Parkway and serves as the prominent entrance point into the Highland Bridge development and also to Saint Paul from Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, the name Gateway serves as a geographic marker of the entrance to the city of Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, Gateway also is symbolic of the place we are in time and moving from the past to the present; and

WHEREAS, the land referred to as Park B, 875 Mount Curve, is in the location where the Ford Assembly Plant once stood; and

WHEREAS, auto industry Union laborers played a prominent role in this period of history and the United Auto Workers Local 879 organized to improve working conditions at Ford Motor Company; and

WHEREAS, the word Assembly also indicates the concept of gathering, and unity; and

WHEREAS, the land referred to as Park C, 2230 Montreal Avenue, Park C has the most natural condition of the parks and directly connects the stormwater in the development to Hidden Falls and a creek that leads to the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, it is a stated priority of the City to recognize that Saint Paul is on Dakota land and a priority to include indigenous communities during the planning aspects of the Highland Bridge development, including the creation and naming of parks; and

WHEREAS, Uŋčī Makŋa (pronounced oon-CHEE Ma-KAH), Dakota for Mother Earth, was endorsed by Dakota representatives engaged in the naming process for this park space; and

WHEREAS, the land referred to as Park D, 2120 Montreal, was largely undeveloped due to steep slopes and wetlands; and

WHEREAS, there is a community desire and recommendation to honor the coyote pack that lives in the area; and

WHEREAS, Míča (pronounced [MEE-cha](#)) is the abbreviated way to say Coyote in Dakota and it was similarly endorsed by Dakota representatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission (“Commission”) considers naming under Commission Policy #7, Naming Parks and Recreation Sites, 2012 Update, which provides criteria for naming of parks; and

WHEREAS, by Commission Resolution #21-06, April 8, 2021, the Commission endorsed the proposed changes in names and found the proposal complies with the spirit of the Commission policy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes renaming the platted Park A to Gateway Park; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council authorizes the platted Park B to Assembly Union Park in recognition of Auto Industry Workers and Local 879; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council authorizes renaming the platted Park C to Uŋči Makħa Park; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council authorizes renaming the platted Park D to Míča Park, and, be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Council thanks all in the community that contributed to this naming process by advancing their ideas and suggestions and specifically acknowledges the contributions of the Dakota representatives and Saint Paul Youth Commission for lending their perspective.