Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	RES 21-321	**Version:** 1		
Type:	Resolution		**Status:**	Passed
			In control:	City Council
			Final action:	3/10/2021

Title: Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to rename Lewis Park to Roy Wilkins Park.

Sponsors: Dai Thao

Indexes: Rename Park

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Lewis Park Rename to Roy Wilkins Park

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/17/2021	1	Mayor's Office	Signed	
3/10/2021	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass

Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to rename Lewis Park to Roy Wilkins Park.

WHEREAS, Lewis Park, 900 North Marion Street, was created by plat in the 1880s and named after the real estate developer John P. Lewis; and

WHEREAS, Roy Wilkins spent his formative years in the home of his uncle Sam Williams, located one block west of Lewis Park on Galtier Street, and attended the former John Whittier Public School on the northern half of the current Lewis Park block; and

WHEREAS, Roy Wilkins campaigned tirelessly for civil rights both in Saint Paul and nationally as editor of the Saint Paul Appeal, an African-American newspaper, and later as executive director of the national NAACP; and

WHEREAS, the Williams/Wilkins home and the Whittier School were demolished in the late 1970s for the Lewis Park "blight clearance" and redevelopment project; and

WHEREAS, the North End Neighborhood Organization wishes to honor Roy Wilkins by officially changing the name of Lewis Park to Roy Wilkins Park and submitted a formal request to consider the renaming; and

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

WHEREAS, the Commission endorsed the proposed change in name and found the proposal complies with the spirit of the Commission policy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Saint Paul City Council hereby authorizes renaming Lewis Park to Roy Wilkins Park.