



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

ACM: Christine Taylor

DATE: July 14, 2026

SUBJECT

Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton naming the park sites located at 700 block Congress St. and 500 block of Mounts Ave. to Congress Street Park; and providing an effective date. The Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board voted to recommend approval (5-0).

BACKGROUND

City Policy and Previous Naming Effort

The current naming effort represents the most recent phase of a process that began in October 2020 with the updating of the City of Denton naming policy guidelines for city buildings, facilities, land, parks, trails, or any portion thereof. The naming policy was recently updated in March 2026 to codify Council's direction that the Park Board should continue to serve as the committee to consider future naming applications and provide recommendations regarding those applications to City Council.

The current naming policy discourages *renaming* parks, parks properties, and parks facilities that already have established, recognized names. Additionally, the naming policy includes guidelines and standards for naming, including the following:

- To name a park after an individual that person must have been a resident of Denton in good standing and must have made an exceptional contribution to society at the local, state, national or global level.
- City properties may be named after individuals who died in honorable service to the City, State, or Nation, or who were known for profound contributions to humanitarian causes.
- City properties (or portions thereof) may also be named after foundations or organizations that have either made a lasting and exceptional positive impact on life at the local, state, national, or international level.
- City properties (or portions thereof) may also be named after organizations who have provided a unique and extraordinary contribution in support of developing all or a portion of a particular City building, facility, parcel of land, or other City property.

Internal Naming Applications

Presently, staff are asking City Council to consider approving the internal naming application for the following park:

- **Congress Street Park** (700 block of Congress Street and 500 block of Mounts Ave.): The application seeks to name two separate parcels of land that are in very close proximity, but not adjacent, as a singular park. These parcels correspond to the sites of the former Calhoun Middle School running track and tennis courts and total 3.433 acres. Denton ISD and the City of Denton agreed to a land swap that was approved by the City Council November 18, 2025. Under the terms

of this swap the City of Denton exchanged 9.4 acres of land at South Lakes Park where the McMath Middle School track and field are currently located for the Calhoun parcels.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

In accordance with the naming policy, Parks and Recreation staff will convey park board's recommendations regarding the internal and external naming applications to City Council who will make the final determination to approve or deny each application.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving internal applications for Congress Street Park.

Parks, Recreation and Beautification board voted to approve these naming requests on May 4, 2026 with a vote of (5-0).

FISCAL INFORMATION

If a facility or park requires new signage as a consequence of naming, this will be a new unanticipated expense. Staff cannot guarantee that a sign will be constructed soon or even placed on the list of short-term park priorities, unless a funding source for these features is determined.

EXHIBITS

- Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet
- Exhibit 2- Resolution
- Exhibit 3- Naming Application
- Exhibit 4- Presentation

Respectfully Submitted:
Allison Wing, Interim Parks and Recreation Director

Prepared by:
Allison Wing, Parks and Recreation