



City of Denton Parks and Recreation

Parks Facilities Naming Applications

November 18, 2025

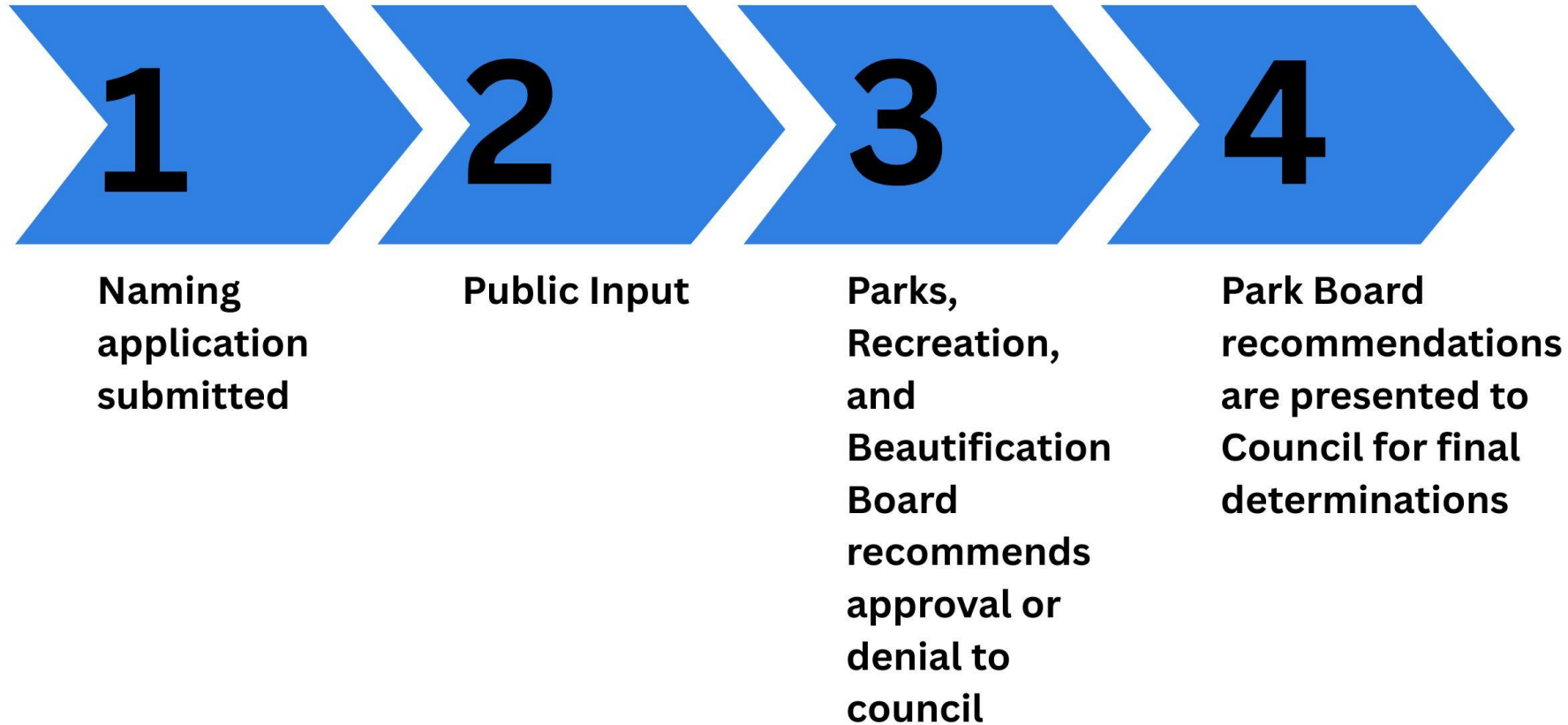
Background

- On October 20, 2020, City Council approved a set of updates to the Naming Policy Guidelines and Application Process.
- This process is mainly for new parks properties and trails. The naming policy discourages renaming existing properties.
- April 2021 City Council recommended Park Board review naming applications and provide recommendations.

Naming Resources

- Naming Policy-
<https://tinyurl.com/namingpol>
- Naming Application-
<https://tinyurl.com/nameappPDF>

Naming Approval Process



Engagement

- **Public Meeting: January 9, 2025**
- **Relevant Stakeholder Connections**
 - **SEDNA - February 25, 2025**
 - **Juneteenth Organizers (by phone)**
- **Park Board Meeting: April 7, 2025**
- **City Council Meeting: November 18, 2025**

Naming Policy Highlights

(Res. 21-2706)

General

- The policy discourages renaming parks, facilities, and other City properties that already have established names.

Naming after an Individual

Naming a park, facility, city property, or a portion of these after a person requires that:

- The person must have been a resident of the City of Denton
- The individual should be/have been a member of the community in good standing
- The individual should be noted for making an exceptional positive contribution to society at the local, state, national, or global level

Naming Policy Highlights, cont'd

(Res. 21-2706)

City Properties may also be named after

- Individuals who died in the line of duty serving the City of Denton, the State of Texas, or the United States of America
- Or, who died helping others in a particularly extraordinary act of bravery and courage
- Or, after someone who made a lasting contribution to humanitarian causes.

Civic Center Naming Request



- Councilmember Byrd (District 1) submitted an application to change the name of the Civic Center to the Quakertown Community Center.
- CM Byrd and Parks and Recreation staff agreed to consider a compromise proposed name "Quakertown Civic Center" may be more appropriate
- This name change would commemorate Historic Quakertown and maintain the distinctiveness and name recognition for the Civic Center facility.
- Park Board unanimously recommended approving this naming request (5-0).

External Naming Request

Day Labor Site



- Submitted by Dr. Rudy Rodríguez, former Denton ISD trustee and professor at TWU and UNT,
- Seeks to name Denton Day Labor Site after Emilio “Popo” González, a founding member of *Familia Unidas* and Denton’s first LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) chapter.
- Park Board unanimously recommended approving this naming application (5-0).

External Event Naming Request

Juneteenth Softball Tournament



- David Martin of the North Texas Umpire Association submitted an application to change the name of the Juneteenth Softball Tournament
- New name suggestion: "John Royster Juneteenth Softball Tournament" to honor Mr. Royster, who was a long-serving softball umpire who was awarded Umpire of the Year by USA Softball of Texas in 2019. Mr. Royster passed away in March 2022.
- Juneteenth Celebration organizers are not in favor of the Change, but are open to some gesture to honor Mr. Royster
- Park Board members unanimously recommended **denying** the name change application (5-0).

Questions?