

APPROVED

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

OCT 18 2006

NO. 06-306

DATE October 18, 2006

**BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

C.D. 13

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: GLASSELL PARK RECREATION CENTER - NAMING OF A BASEBALL FIELD IN HONOR OF TOM DAVIDSON

J. Combs _____	J. Kolb _____
H. Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S. Huntley _____	K. Regan _____
B. Jensen _____	*M. Shull _____

Combs

[Signature]
General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Authorize the naming of a baseball field at Glassell Park, in honor of Tom Davidson;
2. Approve the plaques, their wording and placement on the backstop of the field; and,
3. Authorize Metro Region staff to issue a right-of-entry permit to John Pierce, Richard Gonzales, and Greg Perkins (Proposers) to install and maintain the plaques.

SUMMARY:

Glassell Park is located at 3650 Verdugo Road, in the Glassell Park area of the City. On January 12, 2006, the Department received a letter from a local community member, Mr. John Pierce, proposing the naming of a baseball field at Glassell Park Recreation Center in honor of Tom Davidson and the installation of two memorial plaques in his honor, one on each side of the baseball field backstop.

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Tom Davidson was an employee of the Department of Recreation and Parks for over 30 years. Mr. Davidson worked closely with the Glassell Park community developing sports and cultural activities; preschool, teen, and senior programming; and other community service programs. He empowered people, both young and old, to develop and challenge themselves to overcome their adversities and reach their personal goals. He provided positive outlets for the youth of the Glassell Park community and always emphasized sportsmanship and fair play.

Mr. Davidson passed away on March 25, 2005. A scholarship fund to enable more children to engage in sporting activities will be established in Mr. Davidson's name by the proposers: John Pierce, Richard Gonzales, and Greg Perkins.

The Glassell Park Park Advisory Board heard the proposal on June 19, 2006, and supported the proposal to name the ball diamond in honor of Mr. Davidson. On July 10, 2006, the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council heard the proposal and expressed support for it, as well as for the scholarship program.

Staff has reviewed this proposal and recommends approval of the naming and the installation of the plaques. The plaques would be bronze, approximately 8"x24" in size, and would read "In honor of Tom Davidson, Recreation and Parks Supporter. Dedicated 2006." They would be mounted on each side of the backstop of baseball diamond number three.

The proposers will fund the plaques and the installation costs, and will be responsible for the maintenance of the plaques. These issues, as well as insurance requirements and permission to work on the property at Glassell Park Recreation Center, will be delineated in the right-of-entry permit.

Councilmember Garcetti, Council District 13 and Metro Region staff support the naming.

Staff has determined that the subject project will consist of the placement of an on-premise sign, which is a minor structure that is accessory to (appurtenant to) the existing park facilities, and therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The project will not have a fiscal impact on the Department as the plaques and installation costs will be funded by the proposers.

Prepared by Camille D. Walls, City Planner, and Darryl Ford, Planning Assistant, Planning and Development.