



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: October 3, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: **Unanimous**

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s) Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Contact Info: Nancy Anderson, Chief Assistant County Executive Officer
Brittany Odermann, Deputy County Executive Officer

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Mona Miyasato
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SUBJECT: Nomination to Name Refugio Road Pedestrian Trail in Honor of Carina Dee Velazquez; Third Supervisorial District.

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Public Works

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the nomination and request to name County Pedestrian Trail along Refugio Road "Carina Dee Velazquez Memorial Path" in honor of Santa Ynez resident, Carina Dee Velazquez; and
- b) Determine that the above actions are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines, because they consist of minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, and the exceptions to the exemption do not apply.

Summary:

The County Executive Office received a nomination request from Third District Supervisor, Joan Hartmann, to name an existing unnamed pedestrian trail along Refugio Road in Santa Ynez, "Carina Dee Velazquez Memorial Path" in honor of Santa Ynez Valley Union High School student and resident, Carina Dee Velazquez. In 2015, Carina was tragically hit by a car and killed while walking on Highway 246 and Refugio Road. Naming this trail in honor of her not only serves as a memorial of her life, naming this trail after her serves to remind the community of the importance of improving road and pedestrian safety, and increasing safety measures for residents throughout Santa Barbara County. Staff has reviewed the request

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and determined that unanimous approval of the Board is required in order to satisfy the criteria listed in the policy (Attachment A).

Background:

The Naming and Dedication of County Assets policy, last updated and approved by the Board on [May 2, 2023](#), establishes a process to name and/ or dedicate County assets, such as a building, open space, transportation/flood control structure, object, eligible historic asset, program, or any part thereof, after specific individuals or organizations. The naming or dedication of a County-owned asset in honor of specific individuals or organizations must be considered by the Board of Supervisors following evaluation by the County Executive Office and recommendation to your Board.

Naming of an asset, as proposed for this item, will result in permanent recognition of an honoree, by naming the trail in the County trail database, as well as placing a plaque in her honor on site. Dedicating an asset, means marking the significance of a person or organization by dedicating an asset in commemoration of through a plaque, sign, or marker. Naming an asset will include both the official naming in County databases, records, and maps as well as placing a plaque on site with the name of the trail.

It was determined that naming of this trail falls under the Naming and Dedication of County Assets policy because its location is outside a County Park (and therefore not covered by a Parks Commission policies) and involves an asset (the trail) valued at over \$100,000.

Discussion:

The Third District Office of Supervisor Joan Hartmann, submitted the nomination to name an unnamed pedestrian trail in Santa Ynez along Refugio Road after Santa Ynez Valley Union High School Student and resident Carina Dee Velazquez who was tragically struck by a car and killed along this road walking home from school one day in 2015.

Miss Velazquez was born in Santa Barbara County in 1999 and raised in Santa Ynez. She was family oriented, loved animals, attended Santa Ynez Valley Union High School following her grandparents' legacies as classes of 1970 and 1971, and was a proud member of her small community. She was a member of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and would have graduated as class of 2018.

In order to name a County asset, including a trail, **all** of the criteria listed in Attachment A must apply. If one or more of the criteria does **not** apply, a unanimous approval of the Board is required. In this case, this action will require unanimous approval of the Board because the honoree does not meet the definition of contribution and service in the policy:

Contribution and Service: The proposed individual(s) or organization shall have measurably contributed to the well-being of residents of Santa Barbara County through their service or actions over a sufficient period. A sufficient period is defined as 20 years or more of continued or periodic service. Exception: the Board may consider lesser time with unanimous approval of the Board.

Aside from the contribution and service criteria, the nomination to name this pedestrian trail satisfies the remainder of the criteria guidelines in the policy, which are: residency, deceased individuals, concurrence, consistency with governing laws and regulations, and cost to implement a memorial plaque.

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The Public Works Department has reviewed this request and concurs with the recommendation. As indicated, the approval of this nomination will name the unnamed pedestrian trail along Refugio Road "Carina Dee Velazquez Memorial Path", as shown in Attachment E. There will also be a memorial plaque installed on a rock near the entrance of the trail to acknowledge Miss Velazquez's life. The current street signs and maps will remain the same. The Parks division of the Community Services Department confirmed that any future, official maps will include the new name.

Fiscal Impact:

Approximately \$1,500 will be required for purchase of the memorial plaque and installation by County Public Works. These funds are available in fiscal year 2022-23 District 3 Allocation Fund 990. This cost includes the plaque, the rock in which the plaque will be placed, labor, and equipment usage. Changing the name of the trail in the County Public Works database requires no additional costs.

Attachments:

Attachment A - County of Santa Barbara Naming Policy

Attachment B - Carina Dee Velazquez Third District Nomination Form

Attachment C - Letters of Support

Attachment D - Family Concurrence

Attachment E - Trail Map

Authored by:

Jasmine McGinty, Principal Analyst, County Executive Office