



# City of Alameda

## Meeting Agenda Recreation and Park Commission

---

Thursday, December 10, 2020

7:00 PM

City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Avenue, Council  
Chambers, 3rd Floor, Alameda, CA 94501  
Meetings are held the second Thursday of each  
month at 7:00 p.m.

---

### REVISED AGENDA TO ADD ITEM 6-B PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Due to Governor Executive Order N-29-20, Recreation and Park Commissioners can attend the meeting via teleconference.

The City allows public participation via Zoom. For information to assist with Zoom participation, please click: <https://www.alamedaca.gov/zoom>

For Zoom meeting registration, please go to:

[https://alamedaca-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_aYUe2dkCRtmrBv71ciqDwQ](https://alamedaca-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aYUe2dkCRtmrBv71ciqDwQ)

For Telephone Participants:

Zoom Phone Number: 669-900-9128

Zoom Meeting ID: 865 8230 4476

Members of the public can also watch the meeting via livestream ([http://alameda.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera\\_id=3](http://alameda.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera_id=3)) and address the Commission during the meeting via Zoom. Comments submitted prior to the meeting will be included in the meeting record, but will not be read.

Any requests for reasonable accommodations should be made by contacting the Recreation and Park office ([arpd@alamedaca.gov](mailto:arpd@alamedaca.gov) or 510-747-7529). City Hall will NOT be open to the public during the meeting.

#### 1 ROLL CALL

#### 2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2-A [2020-8547](#) Approve Minutes of November 12, 2020 Recreation and Park Commission Regular Meeting

**Attachments:** [2020-11-12 RPC Minutes](#)

#### 3 WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

**Anyone may address the board on a topic not on the agenda under this item by submitting a speaker's slip, subject to the 3-minute time limit.**

**4 REPORT FROM RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR****5 REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS****6 AGENDA ITEMS**

**6-A**     [2020-8555](#)     Introduce Matt Nowlen, Parks Manager

**6-B**     [2020-8546](#)     Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park

**Attachments:**     [Information on Top 10 Names and Final 4 Recommended  
by the Renaming Committee](#)  
[6-B Presentation](#)  
[6-B Public Comment](#)

**7 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA - Next meeting is January 14, 2021****8 ADJOURNMENT****\*\*\*\*NOTES\*\*\*\***

•Translators or sign language interpreters will be available upon request. Please contact the Recreation and Parks Executive Assistant at (510) 747-7529 or (510) 522-7538 (TDD number) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to request a translator or interpreter.

•Equipment for the hearing impaired is available for public use. For assistance, please contact the Recreation and Parks Executive Assistant.

•Minutes of the meeting are available in enlarged print.

•Audiotapes of the meeting are available upon request.

•Please contact the Recreation and Parks Executive Assistant at (510) 747-7529 or (510) 522-7538 (TDD number) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to request agenda materials in an alternative format, or any other reasonable accommodation that may be necessary to participate in and enjoy the benefits of the meeting.

•Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Alameda Recreation and Parks Department, 2226 Santa Clara Avenue, during normal business hours.

•Sign up to receive agendas here: <https://alameda.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

- **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE:** Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City of Alameda exist to conduct the citizen of Alameda's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review.
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE OR TO REPORT A VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE, CONTACT THE OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMISSION:** the address is 2263 Santa Clara Avenue, Room 380, Alameda, CA, 94501; phone number is 510-747-4800; fax number is 510-865-4048, e-mail address is [lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov) and contact is Lara Weisiger, City Clerk.
- In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals.

## **Renaming Jackson Park**

*Top 10 Names Background and References with Final 4 Name Recommendations to the Recreation and Parks Commission listed first.*

December 2020

### **OHLONE**

The Ohlone people are a group of approximately 50 villages and family groups who lived on the land that is now known as the San Francisco Bay Area before the Spanish invasion with at least eight dialects spoken. The Confederated Villages of Lisjan is one of a number of Ohlone tribes. The unceded territory of the Lisjan Ohlone people includes the City of Alameda. The name Ohlone originated in the 1960s and 1970s when people organized and renamed themselves Ohlone, inspired by the Black Power and American Indian Movements. There are thousands of Ohlone people living in the East Bay, however, the Ohlone are not recognized by the federal government and subsequently do not have access to the rights, services and protections of federal Indian law managed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

*Reference:*

<https://sogoreate-landtrust.org/lisjan-history-and-territory>

### **CHOCHENYO**

Chochenyo is the Ohlone language spoken by the Lisjan. The Lisjan Ohlone people lived on the land that is now known as the San Francisco East Bay and their unceded territory includes the City of Alameda.

### **MABEL TATUM**

Mabel Tatum is a hidden hero in Alameda's history. Her story reveals many aspects of Alameda's hidden history: WWII housing projects on the Naval Base, fraudulent land deals, the Naval Base's role in the Vietnam War, and the tent-in at Franklin Park led by Tatum and other Estuary Project residents.

A little back story: In 1963, the Alameda Housing Authority (AHA) tried to kick residents out of the Estuary Project, a temporary housing project within the Alameda Naval Air Station. They offered no relocation program to the tenants even though State Housing Authority Law required that they do so. In early 1964, the Alameda branch of the NAACP formed the Citizen's Committee for Low-Income Housing "for the purpose of securing adequate low-cost housing for the tenants of Estuary." Mabel Tatum was their president.

After the committee's formation, the AHA began intimidating and harassing residents by removing mailboxes, garbage disposal units, and laundry services and closing down the nearby store. Their tactics worked: 400 families left the project, leaving only 100 to fight for their right to housing.

Led by Mrs. Mabel Tatum, President of the organization, the Citizen's Committee for Low-Income Housing staged a three-day school boycott and sit-in at the AHA office which resulted in a one-year delay in demolition.

In Winter 1965, a private company purchased the Estuary Project land by fronting as a fake church in order to get around the original Navy contract with the AHA that said the land could not be sold to a profit-making organization.

In June 1966, the Alameda Fire Department flooded the lawn at Franklin Park to try to dissuade families from the Estuary Project from pitching tents there in protest of the impending eviction of 18 families from the Estuary project. Mabel Tatum led a 200 person march through the surrounding, upper-middle class, white neighborhood. The Estuary project was hidden within Alameda's Naval Air Base, so many Alameda residents didn't know the project was there before the protest.

Here's a quote from Mrs. Mabel Tatum's speech titled What Kind of Country is This?

"Now I can't get a house no sooner than you can and my husband's in Vietnam...A beautiful world isn't it. Salute the flag. Justice for all. What kind of country is this we are fightin' for? What kind of a country is this, you can't even exercise your own rights to live where you want to live? What kind 'of country this is that we as a group of people can't protect our own rights whether it's legal or illegal? It's gotten to the point now where we've got to throw the legal part aside. I'm not sayin' out and grabbin' somebody and knockin' 'em down. You don't have to do it that way. You can do it systematically and win that way."

Source: <https://libraries.ucsd.edu/farmworkermovement/ufwarchives/sncc/15-July%201966.pdf>

## **JUSTICE**

The definition is **the quality of being just, impartial, or fair**. It represents the law, righteousness, and correctness in the world. It stems from the latin word, *justus*, which means right or law. The first known use of the word was in 12th century England. It was also the Merriam-Webster Dictionary 2018 Word of the Year as it represents social, criminal, and economic reform in the world.

### **Fred Korematsu**

Fred Korematsu was a Japanese American from Oakland who fought against the internment of his people in the west coast after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He refused to be interned, went into hiding but was found, and arrested. He fought the internment in court was sent to Topaz, Utah, where he lived in a horse stall with a single light bulb for illumination.

After he appealed and was released he continued to fight racism in Utah, and in 1983 he went to court again to have his name cleared. In 1998 President Bill Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

### **Peace**

Peace is an idea of unity, harmony and therefore a lack of hostility and violence. It can also mean a lack of war, like “peacetime,” or it can be a mindset one has. With peace, people can work to improve the quality of life for themselves and others.

With the history of Alameda Naval Air Station so prominent in this city’s legacy, perhaps peace would call to mind what those soldiers fought for.

### **ALAMEDA**

The word “Alameda” in Spanish means “grove of trees,” or “tree-lined avenue” which is a very apt description of the park.

When this became the first park in Alameda, it was referred to as Alameda Park.

### **MARY RUDGE**

Mary Rudge (1925-2014) grew up in Texas and Oklahoma. She was the single parent of 7 children and advocated for children and social change. She travelled the world sharing poetry and became Alameda’s Poet Laureate. She wrote “Jack London’s Neighborhood,” and several other works. She also started Alameda’s poetry contest.

## **Yoshiko Uchida**

Born: Alameda, 1922; Died: Berkeley, 1992 ([NYT obit](#), [wikipedia](#))

### **Quick summary:**

- Author and illustrator of children's books
- Interned with her family and other Japanese Americans during WWII (at Tanforan Racetrack and then Topaz)
- Taught schoolchildren during and after the war
- Numerous books focused on her experiences as a Japanese American; sought to help children view those different from themselves with humanity and to counter/resist Asian or Japanese American stereotypes

### **Biography:**

Uchida was an author and illustrator, mostly children's and young adult (YA) books, and most of which were related to her experiences as a Japanese American before and during World War II, including her experience in a US concentration camp during the war. She also wrote several collections of Japanese folk tales, after receiving a Ford Foundation research fellowship in 1952 that allowed her to travel to Japan.

In the midst of graduating with honors from UC Berkeley, she and her mother and sister were forcibly removed from their home to Tanforan Racetrack Relocation Center, due to President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066. Her father, interned elsewhere initially, was reunited with his family before they were all relocated to Topaz Relocation Camp in Utah.

Yoshiko Uchida taught schoolchildren in the concentration camp, and did so after her release as well, earning a Masters in Education from Smith College.

She published over 40 written works, including:

[Journey to Topaz](#) (fiction; children)

[A Jar of Dreams](#) (fiction; children)

[The Bracelet](#) (fiction; children)

[The Dancing Kettle and Other Japanese Folk Tales](#) (folk tales; children)

[Picture Bride](#) (fiction; adult)

[Desert Exile: The Uprooting of a Japanese American Family](#) (non-fiction; adult)

### **Selected scholarship:**

Harada, Violet H. "Caught Between Two Worlds: Themes of Family, Community, and Ethnic Identity in Yoshiko Uchida's Works for Children." *Children's Literature in Education* 29, no. 1 (March 1998): 19-30. ([linked](#))

Tang, Edward. "Teach Your Children Well: The Postwar Tales of Yoshiko Uchida." In *From Confinement to Containment : Japanese/American Arts During the Early Cold War*, 159-200. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2019. ([linked](#))

### **Archives:**

[University of Oregon](#)

[UC Berkeley](#)

## **NIELSEN TAM**

Nielsen Tam was a Chinese American administrator and helped many vulnerable communities in Alameda. The Alameda Unified School District's (AUSD) administrative building is named after him, the "Niel Tam Educational Center", family members still alive and involved in Alameda. He worked for AUSD for 38 years as a special education teacher, Vice Principal and Principal. After retirement, Neil was on the School Board and in 2013 served as President.

Neil was a trailblazer championing diversity, equity and access in the school district. He served on the boards of Girls Inc., Boys and Girls Club, Alameda Point Collaborative, Alameda Family Services, and the Alameda Food Bank. Neil was founder of the Multi-cultural Community Center and Organization of Alameda Asians. He received many awards and was honored with lifetime achievement awards from the City and County of Alameda. Neil also volunteered throughout the community and dedicated his life to public education, community services and support of all those in need.

Niel Tam received his undergraduate degree in Occupational Therapy from San Jose State University and was the first in his family to enter a Master's program. His parents were both immigrants from China, and his father died when he was 5 years old, so he was the youngest of four sons raised by a single mother. He earned a Master's Degree in Special Education from San Francisco State University and a Master's Degree in School Administration from St. Mary's College.

In 1970, he chose to work with the Alameda Unified School District after being offered positions in San Jose and Napa. He had done his student teaching in Alameda.

Niel worked in the area of special education for 28 years. He had classes at 11 of the schools ranging from elementary to middle and high school. He was the first to teach a preschool class that partnered with the local Head Start program. During the four years that he held that position, he was awarded a number of honors recognizing the innovation and creativity to start and fund the project.

He was a pioneer and champion of a program to mainstream Special Ed students into the classroom, working closely with the administration and teachers at school sites to ensure the program's success. His goal, though, was to move into administration as a school principal. But ... there were barriers to overcome in crossing from Special Education to regular education as well as the challenge of diversity within the City and School District.

He was persistent and became a trailblazer in the district championing diversity, equity, and access. It ultimately took him 16 years of perseverance and hard work to succeed. During the 16 years, he was both in Special Education and also served as an Administrative Designee or Vice Principal at the same time. In 1997, he finally became Principal of Miller School, serving the Coast Guard community and the West End of Alameda. He stayed in the position for 9 years. He also was in charge of the Woodstock Child Development Center ultimately raising the funds to keep the facility going and raising the awareness necessary to value and embrace the program. He was able to successfully secure funds from foundations, the county, and other private sources to create enrichment programs for the school which had experienced a high level of turnover in administrators over the years. He made a commitment to stay at the school for more than just a few years, and make a difference.



In 2006, he became Principal of Washington School (now Maya Lin) and served for two years before retiring. At Washington he created support programs for immigrant families who were not English speakers. He also provided support to the students and families through other programs.

At each of those schools, he built teams of teachers who would ultimately improve test scores by 25 percent, created enrichment programs to help students be successful, and built partnerships with other school communities. To name a few of his achievements--he raised \$350,000 for the playground at Miller School, after the School District was unable to provide funds, partnered with the Golden State Warriors to add the basketball court at Washington School, and created a bridge program with East and West end schools.

When he retired from AUSD, after 38 years, he immediately ran for the Alameda Unified District School Board and was successfully elected in a landslide victory. He ran for a second term in 2012 and was reelected. In 2013, he was President of the School Board where he continued to champion for Alameda's children and families and for equity in the schools.

His community leadership was recognized by the San Francisco Foundation's Koshland Civic Unity Award in 2002—a five-year program to support the West End of Alameda. He was a Coro Northern California Community Leadership Fellow in 2006. He served on the Boards of Girls, Inc., Boys and Girls Club, Alameda Point Collaborative, Alameda Family Services, and the Alameda Food Bank to name a few. He was also appointed to the Alameda City Traffic and Disabilities Commissions. He was a founder of the Multi-Cultural Community Center and Organization of Alameda Asians.

He was honored by the Asian Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus with a State Assembly Proclamation and Commendation for his civic volunteerism and his commitment to diversity, mentorship, and leadership in the Asian community in 2015. He received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alameda City Social Services Human Relations Board in 2015. He received an Alameda County Commendation and Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015.

Throughout his civic and community activities, he made volunteerism a priority. He coached and refereed boys' soccer for nine years, was President of the Alameda Soccer League, and donated his time throughout Alameda. He touched the lives of many as a mentor, colleague, leader, and someone everyone could count on. He was a master in Reiki, taught Tai Chi classes, tutored children, and worked tirelessly to help children and families receive the quality education that he believed everyone deserved. He served as a leader on church committees with the Buena Vista United Methodist Church, and was also a role model for everyone.

Niel Tam passed away in May of 2015. He had dedicated his life to public education, community service, and support of all those in need.

- 1) 39 years at AUSD
- 2) 12 years principal low income communities
- 3) Boards - Girls Inc., Alameda family services, Alameda Point Collaborative, Alameda Multi Cultural Center, Organization of Alameda Asians, and more.
- 4) Coro Fellow, Koshland - SF Foundation grantee,

Information provided by Chris Tam, son of Niel Tam

These resources support information gathered by Chris both in the interview and in his email.

Passages: Nielsen Tam, 1945-2015-[LINK](#)

AUSD Board of Education Trustee Nielsen Tam Dies at Age 69-[LINK](#)

District Set to Name Headquarters for Tam - [LINK](#)

# Park Naming Committee Final Report



# Who We Are

---

- Rachel Brockl - Director of the Litigation Center & Law Professor at Golden Gate University, School of Law. Lived in Alameda nearly 40 years. Race and Justice Task Force at GGU.
- Jessica Santone - Assistant Professor of Art History & Visual Studies at Cal State East Bay. Council for Racial & Social Justice at CSUEB. Teaches about monuments/public art and the history of race in American art.
- Raquel Williams - Senior and leader at Alameda High School. Community activities - BSU President, Vice-President Youth Activist of Alameda, City's Racism Subcommittee, AHS Diversity Commissioner

# Purpose

---

- Summarize the Committee's process
- Present the following names nominated by the Committee to the ARPD Commission:
  - Ohlone Park
  - Chochenyo Park
  - Mabel Tatum Park
  - Justice Park
- Provide rationale and support for the final name selection



# The Beginning

Rasheed Shabazz wrote a letter to the 2018 Parks Commission, and received pushback, so he created a petition, and made public comment at a Commission meeting. Soon after, the Rename Jackson Park group was formed.



To: Alameda Recreation and Parks Commission, City Council

## Rename Jackson Park



Campaign created by  
Rename Jackson Park



Remove Andrew Jackson's name from Alameda's first park

Why is this important?

Make Alameda's public spaces inclusive.

Over the past five years, a renewed effort to eliminate and remove monuments to white supremacists in public space has taken place throughout these United States and the world. In addition to memorials to the Confederacy, other symbols of colonialism, slavery, and genocide have been removed or come under increased scrutiny.

In January 2018, parents at Alameda's Haight Elementary School petitioned to rename their school after learning the school's namesake, Henry H. Haight held bigoted, racist, and xenophobic views. Haight was considered a "strict Jacksonian Democrat" in the 1860s.

Alameda's first park, Jackson Park, should be renamed due to Andrew Jackson's oppression of African and Indigenous or Native American peoples. Specifically:

Jackson enslaved hundreds of African people in captivity at the Hermitage.

In addition to being a slaveowner, he earned the nickname "Indian Killer" for his participation in the murder of indigenous people.

As President, he advocated for the forced resettlement of indigenous people in the Southeast, commonly called the "Trail of Tears."

So why does Alameda have a park named after Andrew Jackson?

1,261 of 2,000 signatures

Sign the petition

First Name \*

Last Name \*

Email \*

ZIP \*

Phone Number

By providing your mobile number you consent to receive cell phone and text communications from ColorOfChange and its affiliated entities concerning news and action opportunities. Message and data rates may apply. You can unsubscribe at any time by texting STOP to 225568.

SIGN

By taking action, you will also receive periodic communications from ColorOfChange.

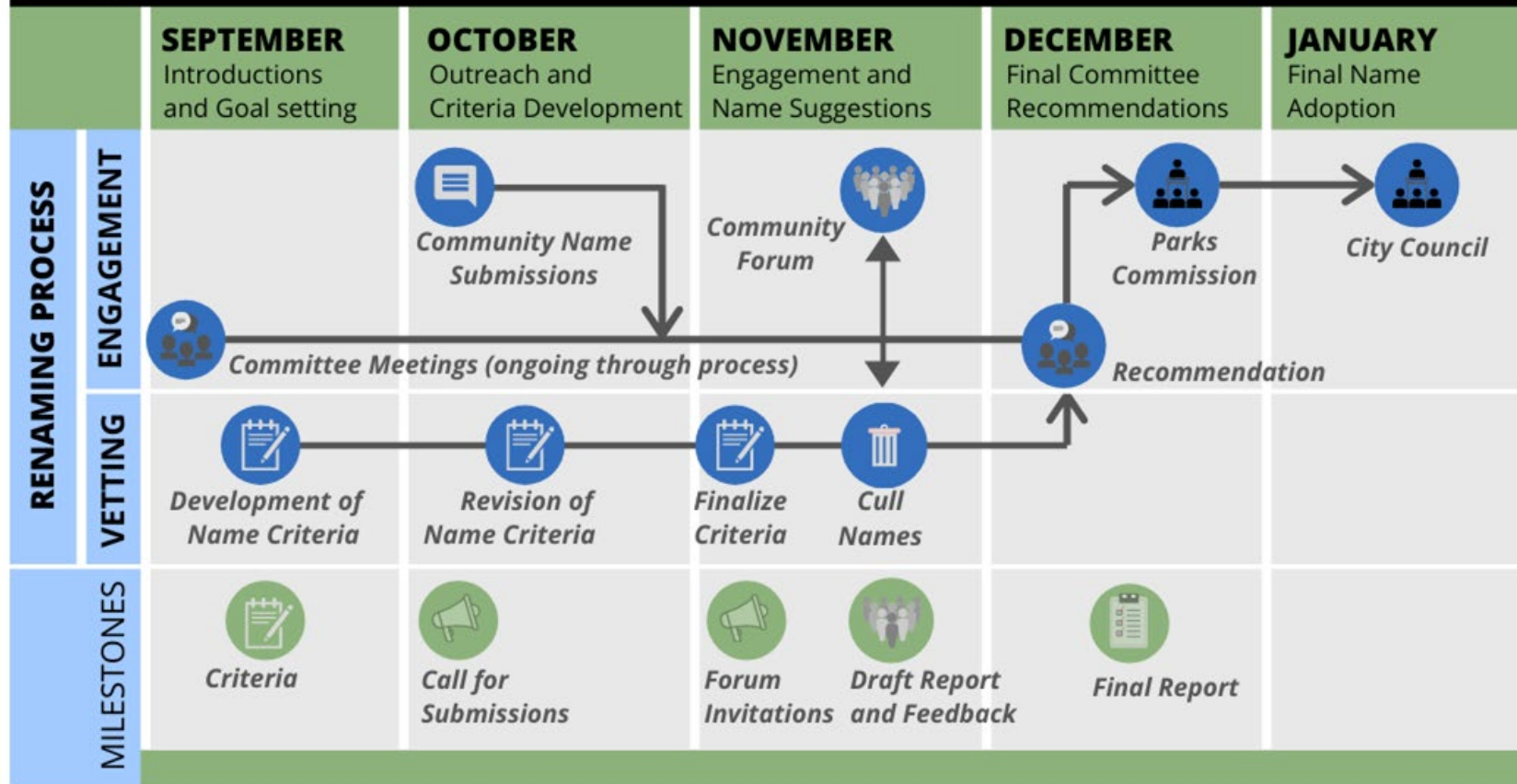
LAST SIGNED BY:

Sara M.	1 week ago
Leslie V.	1 week ago
Jennifer R.	4 weeks ago
Emma R.	1 month ago
Francis M.	1 month ago



## PARK RENAMING COMMITTEE PROCESS

The Park formerly known as Jackson Park, Alameda, CA



# Introductions & Goal Setting

---

- Park Naming Committee was formed by ARPD and made up of carefully selected Alameda residents and Commissioners
- Met weekly every Wednesday, September-December
- Defined goals, including equity, inclusion, and transparency throughout the process
- Established criteria for the new name (see right)
- Split into subcommittees: Community Outreach and Vetting

## Naming Criteria

*We are seeking a park name that reflects inclusion, diversity, and equity of the entire community of Alameda, and which represents social justice, human rights, and/or anti-racism. If a person's name is submitted, they must be deceased. Submitted park names should be related to Alameda and/or the greater SF Bay Area.*



Park Naming Committee meeting on Zoom

# Outreach to the Community

---



- Conducted marketing, with outreach to over 100 cultural groups, community groups on social media, and local programs, with the goal of reaching across the entire city, particularly those from groups historically marginalized or excluded from civic processes
- Created the *Give us a Sign* project and flyer
- Posted additional flyers in high traffic areas
- Contacted local businesses
- Gave educational presentations about the park name, including at Alameda & Encinal High Schools
- Gathered over 150 name suggestions from the community



# Criteria Development & Vetting

TOP NAMES		Scores			Individual Rankings				Submission Frequency Sources				
Name Idea	Rank	Total	Automated	Sub-Total	Jessica	Jim	Rachel	Rasheed	ARPD 2019	RJP	Park Ave	ARPD 2020	
PEOPLE													
Fred Korematsu	1	16	12	4	X	X	X	X	0	2	0	0	0
Mabel Tatum	3	14	12	2	X		X	X	1	0	0	0	0
Ohlone	1	16	12	4	X	X	X	X	6	8	2	15	
Chochenyo	3	14	11	3	X	X	X	X	6	1	1	2	2
Nielsen Tam	5	13	11	2		-	X	X	2	0	0	0	2
Ishi	-	10	10	0			-		0	0	0	0	1
Mary Rudge	5	13	10	3	X		X	X	2	0	0	0	4**
PLACES													
Alameda	1	9	6	3	X	X	X	X	1*	1	24	21	
Park Ave	2	8	6	2			X	X	0	0	1	2	
Magnolia	3	7	5	2	X		X		0	0	1	0	
Poplar		5	5		X				0	0	0	0	
Dumb Friends		5	5				X		0	1	0	0	
PRINCIPLES													
Justice	1	11	8	3	X	-	X	X	0	2	0	1	
Liberty	5	6	6	0	-		X		0	2	0	0	
Peace	2	8	6	2			X	X	1	0	0	2	
Unity	2	8	6	2		X		X	1	0	0	5	
Diversity	4	7	5	2		X	X		0	1	0	1	
Humanism		5	5	0			X		0	1	0	0	
Sister Cities Peace		5	5	0			X		0	0	0	1	
People		Places		Principles									
1. Fred Korematsu		1. Alameda		1. Justice									
1. Ohlone		2. Park Ave		2. Peace									
3. Chochenyo		3. Magnolia		2. Unity									
3. Mabel Tatum				4. Diversity									
5. Mary Rudge				5. Liberty									
5. Nielsen Tam													

Vetting chart designed by Rasheed Shabazz

- Divided names collected by Outreach into three types:
  - People & Cultural Groups
  - Places/Historical Names
  - Principles
- Used established criteria to create a scoring grid, with names evaluated by:
  - Contributions to Alameda / Bay Area
  - Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
  - Social Justice, Human rights, & Anti-racism
- Researched and scrutinized each name against these criteria and compiled team members' scores
- Presented the highest scoring names in each category to full committee for final vetting and selection of top 10 names

# Engagement & Name Suggestions: Community Forum

---

## People & Cultural Groups

Ohlone  
Chochenyo  
Fred Korematsu  
Yoshiko Uchida  
Mabel Tatum  
Mary Rudge  
Nielsen Tam

## Principles

Peace  
Justice

## Places/Historical

Alameda

- Researched top 10 names list and prepared a presentation on the park's history and our naming process for a Community Forum on November 23
- Reached out to the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Ohlone and the Sogorea Te Land Trust to seek permission to consider the names Ohlone and Chochenyo, to solicit their feedback on these names, and to invite their participation in the Forum
- Conducted public polling during the Forum on Zoom and in an internet poll on the ARPD website during the last week of November

# Evaluation & Final Committee Recommendations

---

## Final Names

Ohlone\*

Chochenyo

Mabel Tatum

Justice

*\* Ohlone is not the name preferred by representatives of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Ohlone*

- Evaluated diversity, equity, and inclusion in the process, including lack of equitable representation during the Forum and in the public opinion poll in November
- Weighed the impact of each potential name on our community as a whole
- Made a determination of final name selection through a consensus decision making process, and based on:
  - best fit with all of our criteria,
  - specific park location,
  - critical analysis of community feedback, and
  - best opportunity for education to the community
- Continued consultation with the Language Carrier for the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Ohlone

# Why not “Alameda Park”?

---

- **Even as Alameda Park was a popular choice** amongst some in the community, it does not, on closer evaluation, fit our criteria.
- We want this park to represent all different cultures and backgrounds who live here and not only represent the documented history of colonizers.



1041— 841 A quiet spot in the park, Alameda, California.

## Here are the Reasons for the Rejection of Alameda Park

- The historical context **represents a period in time when colonization and segregation** were Alameda’s realities.
  - Due to **redlining in Alameda**, the East End has historical contexts of people of color being denied access of living there.
- Alameda Park came from Alfred A. Cohen, an English immigrant who developed this land into the Alameda Park semi-private garden for residents in 1867 which **demonstrates Alameda’s history of colonization of indigenous lands** and it not being open to all people.
- There is **no available documentation** that this was the officially adopted name of the park. It was referred to in that way in 1895.
- The education component desired would **highlight the negative historic stories of Alameda** and would restrict growth as a community as we would be stuck in the past.

# Justice Park

---



The definition is **the quality of being just, impartial, or fair**. It represents the law, righteousness, and correctness in the world. It was also the **Merriam-Webster Dictionary 2018 Word of the Year** as it represents social, criminal, and economic reform in the world.

This name **fits our criteria** because it represents fairness and is used to demonstrate progress in society. This value is one to represent respecting others and equality. It is one that has been connected to multiple social movements and is able to evolve with the world as justice grows with our diverse community.

The name gives us the opportunity to create a **specific memorial** about Alamedan history and has the ability to **honor multiple movements and activities**.

The movement of renaming Jackson Park **sparked after national attention from the murder of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor** ignited people to change their public spaces named after problematic people. This name would end up being a representer of social change and would invite movements such as BLM and LGBTQ+ to **take action at the park as a sign of justice**.

# Mabel Tatum Park

---

Mabel Tatum was a **powerful advocate of housing rights** for low-income Alamedans, including Black Alamedans, in the 1960s. She was president of the Citizens Committee for Low-Income Housing, formed in 1964 by the Alameda chapter of the NAACP. In 1966, she led the Occupation of Franklin Park, staged a 3-day sit-in at the AHA office, and organized a school boycott, to protest evictions from Estuary housing project at the Naval Air Base with her neighbors. Her courage in these fights inspires us today; as a military wife during the Vietnam war, she risked a lot in her challenge to the city.

The name would present an excellent **opportunity for education about the history of housing justice and racial justice in Alameda**, including the park's original formation as semi-private property and the subsequent history of redlining and other forms of housing discrimination that continue to the present.

**Mabel Tatum Park would be second park named after a Black woman in Alameda.** While Jackson is often remembered for his role in the forced removal of Native Americans, it should be noted that he did so to expand the plantation economy and was an enslaver himself; naming the park after an important Black American from our community would be a repudiation of his racism.



Photo credit: Bancroft Library



# Chochenyo Park

---



The Chochenyo Ohlone people were the original inhabitants and caretakers of the unceded territory that includes the place presently named Alameda. Chochenyo also refers to one of the languages spoken by the people of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Ohlone, a group not formally recognized by the federal government. The Committee process arrived at two Indigenous names, Ohlone and Chochenyo, but **Chochenyo is preferred by members of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Ohlone as it is more specific to the people who lived in this place.** Naming the park this way honors them, respects their interest in this name, and recognizes their continued impact in the East Bay.

Chochenyo Park presents an **opportunity for education**, both about an inclusive history of the original peoples of this place and about the history of Andrew Jackson's involvement in the genocide of Indigenous peoples and theft of their land. This name is a **gesture towards redressing the harm of the former name.**

**Finally, the committee hopes that this name will begin a process of bringing a land acknowledgment to City Council for approval and including the Lisjan Ohlone in community decisions.**

# Next Steps

---

- The Commission will discuss the Committee's proposed names – Chochenyo, Mabel Tatum, and Justice – and make a recommendation to City Council on January 19, 2021
- Park Naming Committee (or a subset of this committee) will help to develop educational signage for the new park name



# RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION

AGENDA 12-10-2020

## ITEM 6-B

RECOMMEND A NAME FOR THE PARK  
FORMERLY KNOWN AS JACKSON PARK

PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

**Subject:** Renaming Jackson Park information

Hello Commissioners,

Below is an email from Deja Gould, Language Carrier of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Tribe here in the East Bay. This is further clarification that we will include in the presentation on Renaming Jackson Park but I'm forwarding it to you in advance as written comment.

Thank you so much! I'm happy we could talk earlier the Tribes preference would lean towards Chochenyo. With Ohlone being an umbrella term used for many Ohlone Tribes, Chochenyo seems appropriate as it is the language that is spoke by our people in the East Bay.

As far as meeting times I will try to get back to you tomorrow with a more solid date and time we would be able to meet. Thank you again! I hope to talk soon.

'Uni (Respectfully),

***Deja Gould, Language Carrier***

Confederated Villages of Lisjan Tribe

Amy Wooldridge

Recreation and Parks Director

2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

(510) 747-7570

[awooldridge@alamedaca.gov](mailto:awooldridge@alamedaca.gov)

[www.alamedaca.gov/recreation](http://www.alamedaca.gov/recreation)

---

## Thoughts on the Naming of a Park

The two emails reproduced here are from a recent digital conversation with Rasheed Shabazz about the original name and current renaming of the former “Jackson Park.” He initiated the exchange by reaching out to me (on Sept 29) with questions about the name “Alameda Park.” I have also been following online commentary concerning this name. Since some comments make reference to the *Park Avenue Heritage Area* (1988) and *Alameda at Play* (2001), my history of the park system commissioned by the Alameda Recreation and Park Department, I felt compelled to provide some clarification.

I asked my correspondent if he would consent to posting our exchange online, but his conditions were such that I decided to go ahead and post my emails alone. Thus his emails—his half of the dialogue—are not included here. My texts are pasted into this document exactly as written, with the following exceptions: greetings and signoffs are deleted; one instance in which I quote my correspondent is redacted [*like this*]; and typos have been corrected. Graphic changes have also been made to fonts, line spacing, and paragraph formatting for readability and consistency. The attached black-and-white Sanborn maps (1897 and 1948) have headings not found in the original transmission. The 1987 Sanborn maps have been omitted because they are redundant; the park names on those maps are the same as those on the 1948 maps. Examples of full-color Sanborn maps (including the 1897 Alameda maps) are available online.

Anyone interested in this issue should check out the recording of the community forum held on November 23, which can be accessed on the ARPD website. I post this document not as an advocate for the “Alameda Park” name, which will become clear as you read on, but as a historian offering his perspective.

—Woody Minor

29 November 2020

---

**6 October 2020**

I went through my old files on Jackson Park and came up with some items that may help clarify the naming history. Let me begin by recounting a bit of the historical backdrop.

As you know from the history in *Alameda at Play*, the park's name derived from the 1867 Alameda Park tract, which in turn derived its name from Alameda Park, opened by the San Francisco & Alameda Railroad in 1865. This was the city's first resort, giving birth to a dynamic and long-lasting tradition. It was also the first major development in the vicinity of the main train station, at Park and Lincoln, and as such marked the beginning of the modern city, that is, the post-gold rush, rail-oriented, suburban city. Park Street derived its name from the resort as did Park Avenue.

The resort included a hotel north of Central Avenue and 60 wooded acres south of Central to the bay. The hotel became an insane asylum in 1867 and burned in 1871; its redeveloped site is not discernible today. The wooded acreage was subdivided by railroad directors in 1867 as the Alameda Park tract, which included an oval green for the use of the homeowners. The tract was renamed Alameda Park Homestead in 1874 under new owners. When the oval became a city-owned park, perpetuating the original layout and name, the new public park preserved an important piece of Alameda's earliest rail-era rebirth.

That said, let me note some items I came across wherein the name "Alameda Park" seems to have been applied formally to (or identified with) the new public park, as it came into being in the years 1889-1894, to wit:

**[1] Ordinance No. 109 [17 June 1889]** - "Determining that certain land in the City of Alameda, known as Alameda Park, is necessary for a public park, and directing that proceedings be instituted to condemn the same."

---

**[2] “Alameda Park: Our Trustees Seem to Favor Its Improvement”** [*Alameda Argus*, 16 Aug 1889]. “At the close of the meeting of the Board of City Trustees, Monday evening, Trustee Hammond desired some information as to the program of gaining title to Alameda Park ... Mr Hammond thought that ‘if we are to beautify Alameda Park, we ought to get at it.’”

**[3] Ordinance No. 165 [25 May 1891]** - “Defining width and location of roadways of Park Avenue around Alameda Park.”

**[4] “Alameda Park: Further Legal Action Necessary to Secure It”** [*Alameda Argus*, 8 March 1893]. “While Alameda has become noted for its beautiful homes and park-like appearance, it has never had a park which it could call its own and point to with the finger of pride.”

**[5] “To Improve the Park: Plans Adopted for the Desirable Improvement”** [*Alameda Argus*, 2 Dec 1893] - “The Board of Trustees met last night to consider ... several plans for the beautification of Alameda Park ...”

**[6] “Now Has a Park: City Attorney’s Good News to the Trustees: Review of the Litigation Concerning Alameda Park”** [*Alameda Argus*, 12 June 1894] - “In the action City of Alameda vs. EB Mastick, Trustee, et al., judgment has been rendered in favor the city condemning Alameda Park for public use, as a public park, without damages.”

I hope this information proves helpful in the city’s deliberations. While it is true that prior to 1909 Alameda Park was sometimes referred to informally in newspaper articles as “the city park” or simply “the park,” since there was no other, it seems evident from the record that the private park’s historic name morphed naturally into the public park’s official name. I for one would like to see the park’s name revert to “Alameda Park,” invoking not only the origins of the park but of the entire resort tradition and of the modern city itself.

---

*12 November 2020*

I intended to write sooner but the complexity of the issues gave me pause, leading to a fair amount of reflection, and then I got caught up in the national election. 😊 Since the “Creating Our Future” event is happening this weekend, I want to get this to you without further delay. As before, please forward this email to ARPD staff et al in the loop.

I would like to start with the “Alameda Park” name and then move on to broader issues. I was startled by your assertion, in your last email, that [redacted]. How can you be so sure? Have you followed every path to its source? I persist in seeing the original naming process as somewhat shrouded, though the likelihood is “Alameda Park” was the first official name.

The most compelling piece of new evidence for the “Alameda Park” name was so obvious that I failed to see it. I’m referring to the nomenclature found in the local Sanborn maps. As you know, these maps were prepared by the Sanborn-Perris Map Co of New York under contract with municipalities for fire insurance purposes. The survey crews worked closely with local officials, property owners, businesses, and organizations to ensure accuracy. In addition to meticulously measured footprints of structures, the maps include precise names for business, churches, and public facilities like schools, libraries, and parks. The maps are authoritative sources for urban historians tracking the evolution of the built environment and its nomenclature.

The 1897 Alameda Sanborn—the oldest edition in the Library of Congress collection—clearly identifies the park as “Alameda Park.” Since Sanborn maps do not include tract names or “unofficial” popular names in their labeling of buildings and places, this would indicate that the official name at the outset was “Alameda Park.” Occasionally surveyors missed something or failed to update a name. Thus, as you can see in the attached maps, the park is identified as “Alameda Park” on both sheets in 1897 and as “Jackson Park” on one sheet in 1948. The name as it appears on the 1897

---

map cannot be an anachronism, however, since that first map was the baseline for all that followed. The most recent maps (1987) are also included to show how the maps look in color, with the colors referring to structural systems. The 1897 and 1948 maps included here are black-and-white pdfs of the original color maps.

Moving on to the current process of renaming the park, I believe the complexity of the issue calls for a nuanced, multi-layered approach. As you noted in your last email, interpretive plaques would be helpful. Whatever the name ends up being, I see three narratives at work, each warranting an interpretive plaque. (The other day I took a walk in the park and noted that the three east-facing sides of the bandstand would make ideal backdrops for three standing plaques mounted on posts.) These narratives are informed by intensive research over the past several years as I have delved into the “deep history” of Alameda, trying to grasp its natural and human dimensions over many millennia.

[1] The ancestral Diaspora out of Africa some 100,000 years ago into Europe, Asia, and the Americas, the likely settlement of California some 15,000 years ago at the close of the last Ice Age, and the likely continuous habitation of the place we now call Alameda for at least 7,500 years by the descendents of the original migrants and by later migrants. The natural history of the place since the last Ice Age could be summarized, e.g., the establishment of the oak forest and the creation of the peninsula as sea levels rose. It was a fine place for people to live, quite beautiful, with food and freshwater at hand.

[2] The counter-narrative out of Africa, addressing the brutal irony of slavers regarding the human homeland as a hunting ground for people brought to America against their will and treated as property. And the other counter-narrative in America, wherein the ancient inhabitants, the First People, were killed by germs and guns and then corralled, their land appropriated. Andrew Jackson’s military and political career is embedded in this narrative. In California, it began decades earlier with the Spanish.

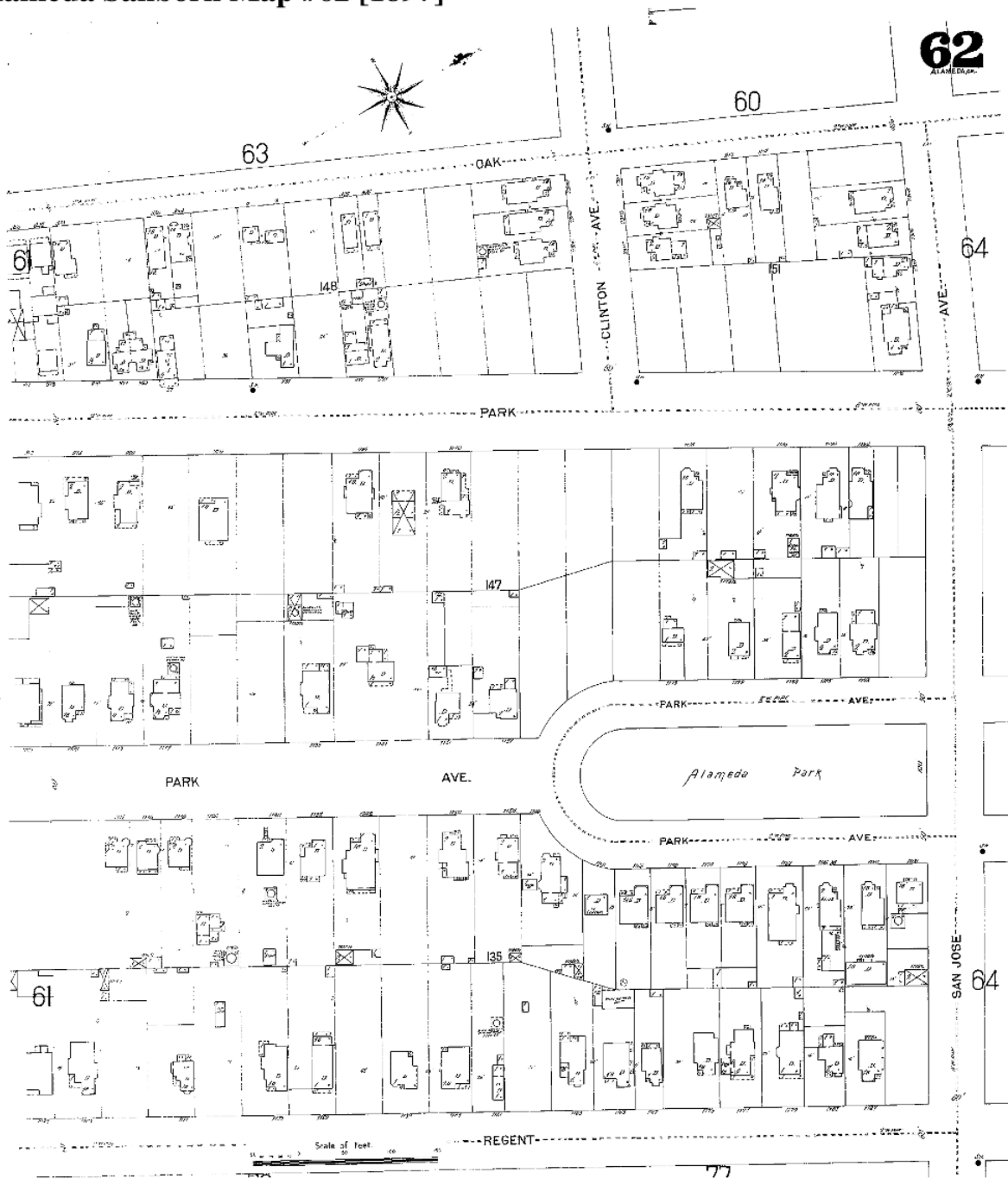
---

[3] Finally, the place called Alameda—the modern city—from its settlement during the gold rush to the advent of rail and the consequent creation of the Alameda Park resort and the Alameda Park tract. How did the public park come into being, how was it named, and why was it renamed to honor Jackson? The local narrative provides an important balance to the global, national, and regional narratives, returning the plaque-reader to a particular place in time—perhaps with a better understanding of a California city whose history accounts for roughly one percent of the total time people have lived here.

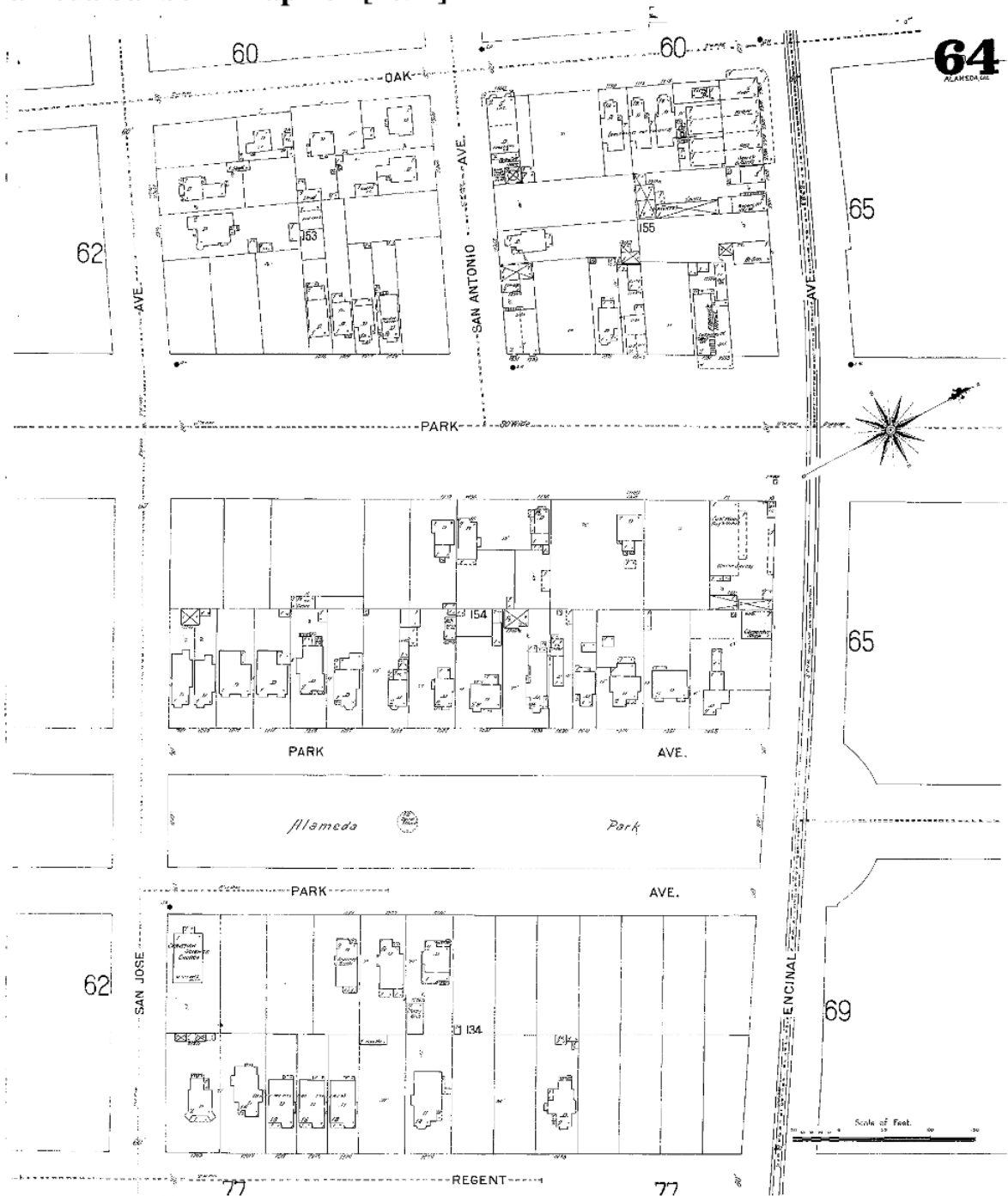
I always thought it a shame the park commissioners renamed the park back in 1909. They should have left it alone. To have the name revert to “Alameda Park” at this point makes sense from the perspective of the third narrative. In the context of the first and second narratives, however, other names come to mind. I wonder if there’s one out there that might resonate with all three narratives.



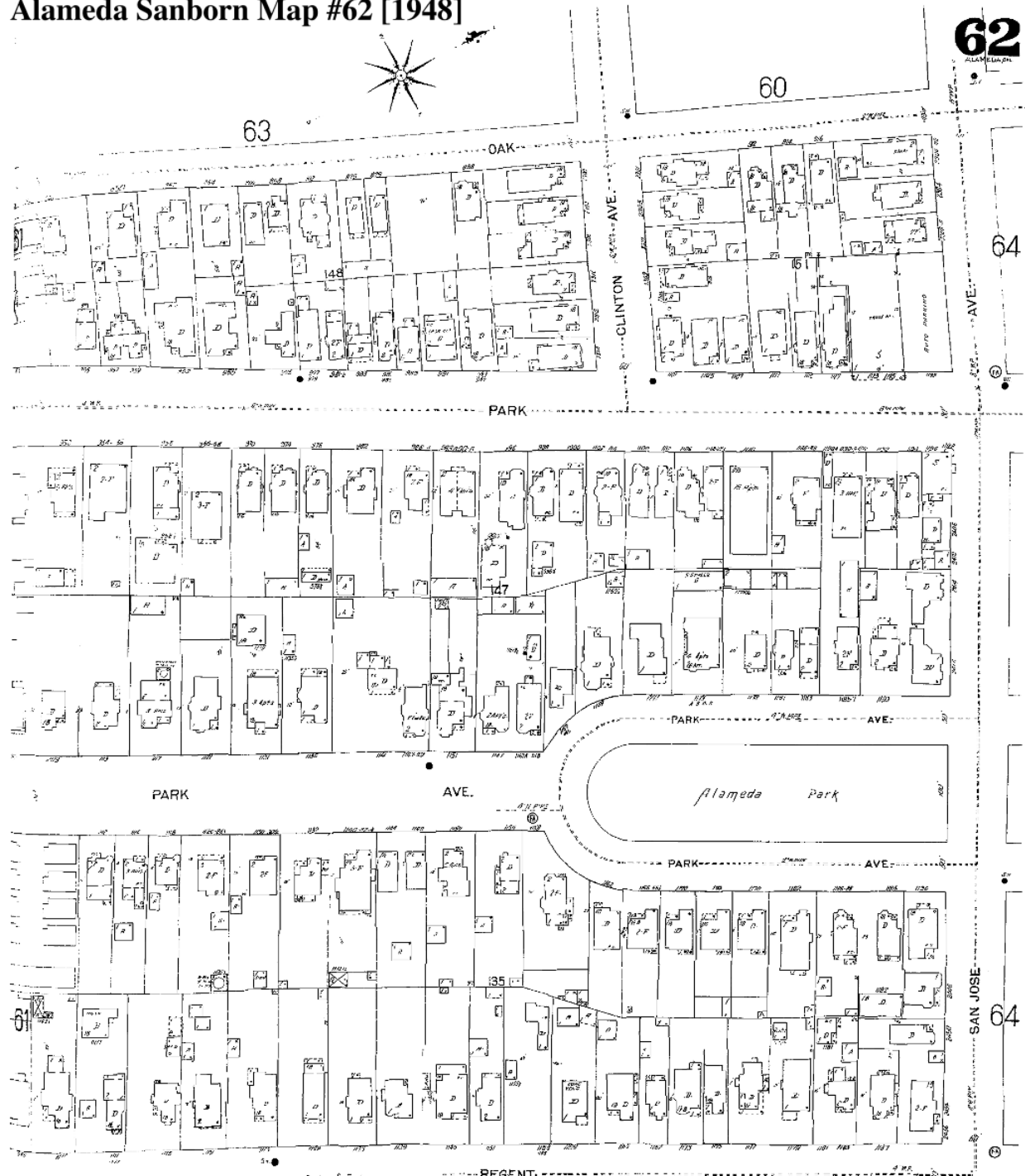
# Alameda Sanborn Map #62 [1897]



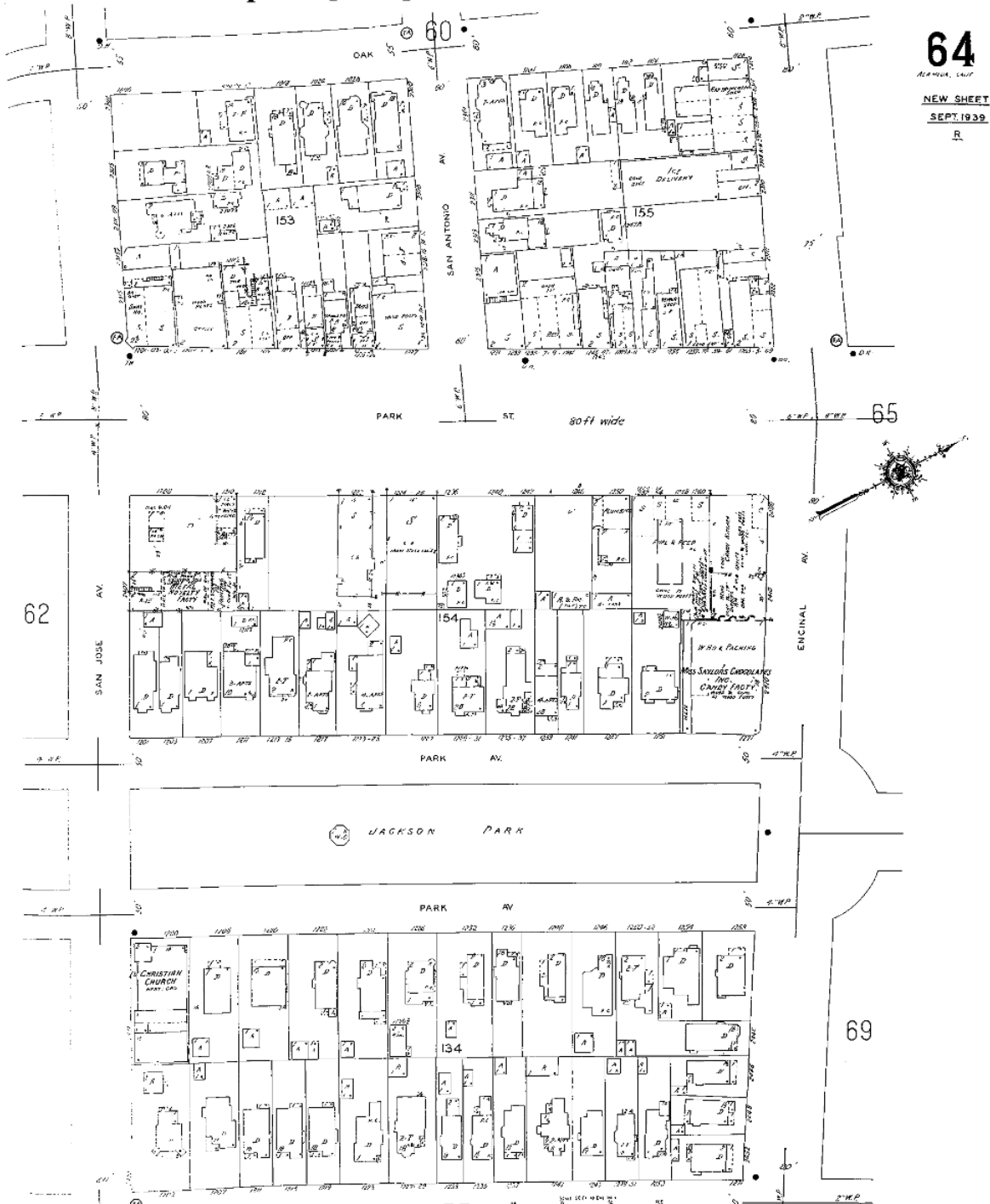
# Alameda Sanborn Map #64 [1897]



# Alameda Sanborn Map #62 [1948]



# Alameda Sanborn Map #64 [1948]



**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

Honorable Commissioners:

I applaud the work of the Renaming Committee for the park formerly known as Jackson Park ("FKA Jackson Park"). The collaboration and resulting work product are worthy of a citywide effort.

A few years ago I participated in a march from the former Haight School to City Hall, urging the school district to rename the school because of Mr. Haight's racism. After that successful effort, I learned that numerous city streets, parks, and other facilities would be renamed for the same reason. Jackson Park moved to the head of the list. Renaming the park seemed a simple task because, unlike the other streets and facilities on the list, Jackson Park had a perfectly good previous name—Alameda Park.

Alameda Park was established as part of the surrounding residential subdivision in 1867. It began to be used for public concerts, for which a bandstand was constructed in 1890. The park became Alameda's first public park in 1895. The 1897 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows Alameda Park during its early years as a City park. Unfortunately, Alameda Park was renamed for Andrew Jackson in 1909.

Many of my neighbors and I advocate returning the park to its original name. The symbolism of yanking away the name of Andrew Jackson and reverting to the original name is powerful.

The Committee's short list of ten potential park names is a wonderful resource worthy of consideration for use on any of the streets and facilities that need new names or, in the case of some new parks, initial names. None of the names, other than the original name Alameda Park, is uniquely suited to FKA Jackson Park. Any of the proposed names could be used interchangeably anywhere in the city.

I urge the Commission to simply undo the mistake made in 1909 and return the name Alameda Park to Alameda's first public park.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Betsy Mathieson  
1185 Park Avenue  
Alameda

## **Written Communication for Item 6-B**

### **Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Renaming Jackson Park

To whom it may concern,

I have lived overlooking the park for nearly 25 years and thoroughly enjoy looking out of my windows at the park every day. I am delighted to see the park in all seasons and the thousands of people who regularly enjoy spending time there. Dog walkers, people with kids, and others who picnic, spread a blanket to enjoy the sunshine and trees. Countless activities, from Frisbee, eating, chatting, napping, exercising, reading, practicing their instruments, playing games, workouts, meetings, and since the pandemic we now have dance classes, and lots of socially distanced groups meeting. To be truthful, none of these activities are likely to change due to the park name. However, I am saddened to hear that the original historic name "Alameda Park" is not in the final list.

The first park in Alameda with the sole purpose of being a beautiful area to gather and walk around enjoying the trees and open space. For over 100 years people have been doing exactly that! The name Alameda Park is a recognition of the history of this park and non-political. I vote for the name Alameda Park.

Sincerely,  
Alanda Orozco  
(1207 Park Ave)

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

**From:** Cybelle Kelley-Whitley  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 6:38 PM  
**To:** Amy Wooldridge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The park formerly known as Jackson

Hi Amy,

I would like to once again submit Alameda Park for consideration as the new name of the park formerly known as Jackson. I know that 3 other names are being considered. This is surprising, because aside from Ohlone, the other names were not at the top of the polls that were presented during the Zoom meeting. I think bringing back the original name is the most appropriate way to honor the history of our first park.

Thank you.

Cybelle Kelley-Whitley

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

**From:** Shannon Whitley  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:04 AM  
**To:** Amy Wooldridge  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Jackson Park Renaming Process

Greetings Ms. Wooldridge and Commissioners,

There are many fine choices amongst the group of names to be considered for the park. I humbly ask that we continue to include one of the most popular names on the list, Alameda Park.

As a community member who lives on Park Ave., I've been closely following the renaming process for the park. I appreciate the efforts that have been made to gather feedback and to represent the views of people across the city.

There is one part of the renaming process that I have found confusing. I observed that "Alameda Park" was consistently one of the top choices in discussions and polls. Alameda Park is the first choice of Woody Minor, a Bay Area historian, who asserts that Alameda Park is the original name of the park. Renaming the park to its original name seems to be the best way to honor the history of the park and our city.

As a footnote, I believe the park was originally named by A.A. Cohen. His family had some holdings in Jamaica that included slave labor, however, he was four years old when the Crown outlawed slavery and therefore he was never a slave owner himself.

Thank you,

Shannon Whitley  
Park Ave. Resident



**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

> On Dec 10, 2020, at 12:29 PM, Ezra Denney wrote:

>

>

> Commissioners,

>

> I write today to express my support for the name Mabel Tatum Park to replace the Park named after a slave owner. I do not need to remind the commission about the bio of Ms. Tatum, but I feel her work for Alameda's Black and low-income residents, especially in regard to housing resonates today. Honoring Ms. Tatum will allow us to educate the City on the many obstacles our Black community has faced, and continues to face.

>

> I am reminded of the words of Commissioner Barnes in her editorial of July 8, 2020: "What we choose to elevate, through monuments or the honor of naming, shows what we value."

>

> It's time for Alameda to show that we value the struggle and activism of our Black and Brown communities. It's time for Alameda to show that we are true to our motto "Everyone Belongs Here." It's time to give Mabel Tatum the honor she deserves.

>

> Thank you,

>

> Ezra Denney

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

On Dec 10, 2020, at 12:48 PM, Laura Gamble wrote:

Hi Director Wooldridge,

I was hoping to pass the below letter along to the commissioners as I am unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration -

*Alameda Recreation and Parks Commissioners,*

*Thank you for voting to rename this Jackson Park. Removing monuments to white supremacy in our community is long overdue.*

*While I think that the four options that the renaming committee has presented are great choices, I believe that both Ohlone and Chochenyo offer something that the other options do not - these both hone in on the spirit of truth and reconciliation. A necessary process for the nation, and for Alameda, to embark on as urgently as possible.*

*And while this is outside the scope of a rename, I hope this commission will eventually take this one step further and work towards a memorial in this park to honor the indigenous people harmed by Andrew Jackson.*

*Thank you for your consideration.*

*Laura Gamble*

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

On Dec 10, 2020, at 2:20 PM, Helen Simpson wrote:

>

> Ms. Wooldridge.

>

> I understand that The Recreation and Parks Commission will hear the issue and made a recommendation to City Council for the final action of renaming Jackson Park at the December 10th meeting. On the staff's report, it lists four finalists, Ohlone, Chochenyo, Mabel Tatum and Justice.

>

> The staff report also states 625 responded to a survey which included 10 names on the survey. I note that the survey was conducted from November 23rd through 27th, the week of Thanksgiving when people were preparing for the holiday. The survey should be open for more than 5 days. What about the individuals that do not go on social media or are on ARPD's email list? With conducting a survey, it should be done where all the residence of Alameda have access to the voting. Only 625 out of an estimated 80,000 residence participated in the survey? That should be a red flag. The 625 that participated in the survey is a little over half the people (1,200) whom signed the petition to remove the name "Jackson Park." Why does this have to be done during the holidays?

>

> Can the committee for renaming Jackson Park reveal how many votes for each of the 10 names on the survey and how the 4 names made the list? It also indicates a large majority of respondents were older, white residents. Can the committee also reveal the complete list of this too? How many voters did not answer the question about age or race?

>

> The staff report indicates that the park was named after President Andrew Jackson in 1909, when, in fact, the first name of the park was Alameda Park, which in Spanish means "grove of trees" which fits the park. Attached are copies of the maps.

>

> On the finalists is Mabel Tatum, which in a newspaper clipping from 19966, the speech she made in the first sentence was: "To hell with the Alameda Police Department . . ." and her first paragraph ends with "So, I say heck with the Alameda Police Department." I find it interesting that the staff report omits this paragraph. It is apparent that Mabel Tatum had an issue with the Alameda Police Department, but the commission is recommending the park be named after her. Attached is the newspaper article from 1966.

>

> It is also costing \$10,000.00 from the Park and Rec. Department's general fund, with an additional \$4,000 for an educational sign. \$14,000 for two signs sounds excessive. What about all the maps that need to re-printed? Has the commission tried to have someone sponsor the signage so the \$14,000 of the general fund can be used for improving the parks?

>

> I am opposed to the commission voting on re-naming Jackson Park. This should have more community voices other than the 625 that responded to one survey over the Thanksgiving week. The City should either keep Jackson Park as is or go back to the original name "Alameda Park."

>

> Helen Simpson

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

> On Dec 10, 2020, at 2:19 PM, PS wrote:

>

> Hello,

>

> My name is Pamela Shepherd and as residents of Alameda, my family and I would like Andrew Jackson Park renamed to Ohlone Park.

> This land was taken by force from the Ohlone Tribe. I'd like to start healing the wounds by renaming this park and offering a sincere, heartfelt apology to our Ohlone people.

>

> Thank You,

> Pamela Shepherd

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

Dec 10, 2020, at 2:44 PM, Jerome Szymczak wrote:

>

>

> Mabel Tatum Park gets my vote! A great tribute to a local and too-long- unsung hero!

Jerome Szymczak

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

On Dec 10, 2020, at 4:10 PM, Rob Halford wrote:

>

>

> Dear Ms. Wooldridge and Commissioners,

>

> As a resident of Alameda, I'd like to provide my support for the Ohlone Park choice for the renaming decision. In my view this is a fitting way to pay homage to the original inhabitants of the island. Further, naming after an individual is always going to be subject to future discovery of human imperfections, as evidenced by the previous name, and should be avoided in my view.

>

> Last, I hope that you will take some time in the meeting to review the results of the poll, and how the final options were determined.

>

> Thank you.

>

> Rob Halford

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

On Dec 10, 2020, at 3:47 PM, Katherine Cameron wrote:

HI. I submitted Truth, but Justice works very well too. Here's my reasoning:

Why not a Native American tribal name? I find it sad that all over the USA , you find parks, cities, counties, states and sports teams named after Native American tribes that were almost annihilated by the very people adopting these names, and stealing the land. It is a kind of sentimentality- following- brutality that I find particularly repugnant. Therefore, I do not support following this pattern on our island, thinking we have somehow honored the Ohlone by naming a park after them. Better to find a few remaining tribal members and see what we can do to REALLY help and honor them. I am guessing we are NOT about to give them back the park itself, or our houses, or other land on our island. Truly, we who are not Ohlone are settlers. We are occupiers. Let's not gloss over that by naming a park after the people from whom we stole.

Why not a name of an individual who made a contribution? I think naming a park after one particular individual is unwise. Unless the park land was donated by a particular person, it just gives rise to "why not this other person" kind of thinking. Instead, let's make the park name ASPIRATIONAL - about values we all share.

**It is because JUSTICE PARK is about all of us, about what we aspire to, and what others have died for, that I think it brings us together, and unites us. In this spirit, I vote for Justice Park among the choices.**

Katherine Cameron  
2716 Bayview Drive  
Alameda CA 94501  
510-814-6593

**Written Communication for Item 6-B**  
**Recommend a Name for the Park Formerly Known as Jackson Park**

On Dec 10, 2020, at 3:41 PM, Ryan LaLonde wrote:

Hello Alameda City Recreation and Parks Commission,

I know tonight you are receiving the final four options for the renaming of Jackson Park. All four names are quite amazing and different nuances. But I do love the juxtaposition of renaming the park in honor of the our first people's and reclaiming the horrible history that Jackson had on Native Americans in the United States. As a decedent of an Eastern Cherokee woman who died on the trail of tears and someone who has worked in the Native American sphere for many years - renaming this ill named park for the Ohlone People would be so fitting. I would go one step further and ask that Ohlone elders have the chance to weigh-in on a name they think maybe more fitting.

I organized the Ann Arbor Pow Wow for over 4 years, and as an Alameda resident - I can see organizing a small gathering every year in the park to teach and watch Native culture and customs. I hope you choose this name and then hand over the respected task to tribal leaders to bless or change the name.

Thank you.

Ryan LaLonde  
2945 Marina Dr.  
Alameda, CA