



Richard Williams <richard.williams@lacity.org>

Community Renaming Application CF 11-0584

NHWNC <pdmont.nhwnc@live.com>

Wed, Aug 1, 2012 at 8:01 AM

To: councilmember.parks@lacity.org, Dennis Zine <councilmember.zine@lacity.org>,

councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org

Cc: richard.williams@lacity.org, john.white@lacity.org, Councilmember Mitchell Englander

<Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org>, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org,

councilmember.labonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org,

councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org,

councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, NHWNC Board Members

<board@nhwnc.org>

Dear Councilmembers:

In October 2011 our Board approved and filed a Community Impact Statement OPPOSING the above referenced renaming application. This action followed extensive outreach including door-to-door solicitation of input and committee meetings. A copy of the CIS is attached and can be found here. The official position of the North Hills West Neighborhood Council has not changed.

On July 24, 2012 Councilmember Englander appeared in person at a Special Meeting and responded to the Education & Neighborhoods Committee Chair's question about the NHWNC's opposition stating [audio at 00:42:00] "Yes that's been resolved." This statement is summarized in the attached E&N Report as "The Councilmember expressed his support for the naming application and also noted that the opposition from the North Hills West Neighborhood Council has been resolved." The opposition has not been discussed nor resolved; Councilmember Englander's statement is false.

The Community Impact Statement reveals the following unaddressed concerns of stakeholders who participated in public meetings:

- Any lasting effect on property values would be minimal and insignificant
- Issues on Woodley Hill are substantially similar to issues facing North Hills
- Woodley Hill is a desirable area, similar to the rest of Western North Hills
- A name change would make Woodley Hill a less desirable part of Northridge
- Confusion would result: Sepulveda? North Hills? Woodley Hill? Northridge?
- North Hills changed from Sepulveda to distinguish from East of the 405 Fwy
- Many stakeholders would then want to extend Northridge to the 405 Freeway
- A change would divide a community of interest presently sharing common goals
- Newly formed Senate & Assembly District boundaries follow present borderlines
- Mission Hills – Panorama City – North Hills Community Plan follows borders
- Woodley Hill would not be part of the Northridge Community Plan until updated
- Carving out Woodley Hill would not be in the best interests of our communities
- Proposed name change does not duplicate another community or neighborhood
- Residents and property owners have been appropriately identified by officials


- Significant objections indicate proposed name change would be bad planning
- There is no consensus amongst affected stakeholders, in/outside of boundaries
- Recognized names: Sepulveda, North Hills, North Hills West and Woodley Hill


Additionally, attached is an LA Daily News Editorial expressing concerns about this renaming application. Please consider all of these facts before voting. Thank you.


Paul Dumont, Vice President
Chair, Planning and Land Use
North Hills West Neighborhood Council
Post Office Box 2246
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(818) 892-8899
PDumont@NHWNC.org
<http://www.NHWNC.org>

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3 attachments

 **11-0584_cis_10-20-11.pdf**
286K

 **11-0584_rpt_en_7-24-12.pdf**
10K

 **CF 11.0584 Daily News Editorial Woodley Hills Renaming Application.pdf**
49K



October 20, 2011

June Lagmay, City Clerk C/O
Shannon Hoppes, Deputy Clerk
Council and Public Services
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT; COUNCIL FILE No. 11-0584

Dear Ms. Lagmay:

The North Hills West Neighborhood Council OPPOSES the community renaming application filed under council file number 11-0584. After several publicly noticed meetings and extensive outreach efforts, including published newspaper articles and committee meetings promoted with flyers distributed in the surrounding and affected areas, our board OPPOSES the proposed renaming for these reasons:

- Any lasting effect on property values would be minimal and insignificant
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- Recognized names: Sepulveda, North Hills, North Hills West and Woodley Hill

Sincerely,

Adam Halaby, President
North Hills West Neighborhood Council

*This Community Impact Statement was approved by a majority the Board of Directors at the publicly noticed monthly board meeting that was held on October 20, 2011 in North Hills West.

Eight of the nine North Hills West NC Board Members were present.

VOTE: Six voted YES to OPPOSE renaming and APPROVE this Statement, One member absatined, and One voted NO.

City of Los Angeles
North Hills West
Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 2246
North Hills CA 91393
(818) 892-8899
Board@NHWNC.org
www.NorthHillsWestNC.com

Board of Directors

Adam Halaby *President*
AHalaby@NHWNC.org

Paul Dumont *Vice President*
Land Use Chair
Public Safety Co-Chair
PDumont@NHWNC.org

Ellie Hill Reese *Secretary*
Events and Marketing Chair
Rules and Elections Co-Chair
EHR Reese@NHWNC.org

Dawn Ailetecher *Treasurer*
Budget and Finance Chair
Emergency Preparedness Chair
DAiletecher@NHWNC.org

David Hyman
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Andy Perkins
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October 20, 2011

June Lagmay, City Clerk C/O
Shannon Hoppes, Deputy Clerk
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

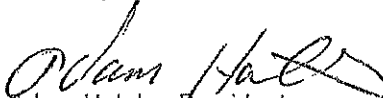
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Adam Halaby, President
North Hills West Neighborhood Council

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COMMUNICATION

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

FILE NO. 11-0584

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER BERNARD C. PARKS, CHAIR
EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE relative to an application to name a community Northridge.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE the application naming a community Northridge, within the boundaries as detailed in the attached Bureau of Engineering map dated June 5, 2011 contained in the Council File.
2. INSTRUCT all relevant departments to perform the necessary requirements to effectuate the naming of this community, including, but not limited to, the installation of signs.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the Chief Legislative Analyst nor the City Administrative Officer has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes.

For Proposal: Northridge East Neighborhood Council

Against Proposal: North Hills West Neighborhood Council

SUMMARY

At a special meeting held on July 24, 2012, the Chair of the Education and Neighborhoods Committee considered an application to change the name of a neighborhood in the north central San Fernando Valley. The application proposes renaming the neighborhood to the existing adjacent community of Northridge. The boundaries of the neighborhood to be renamed are: Lassen Street to the north, Woodley Avenue to the east, Plummer Street to the south, and Balboa Boulevard to the west.

The Councilmember representing the 12th Council District in which the community to be renamed is located, addressed the Committee Chair relative to the renaming application and responded to related questions. The Councilmember expressed his support for the naming application and also noted that the opposition from the North Hills West Neighborhood Council has been resolved.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair recommended that the Council approve the application. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNCILMEMBER BERNARD C. PARKS, CHAIR
EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| <u>MEMBERS</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
| PARKS: | YES |
| PERRY: | ABSENT |
| ZINE: | ABSENT |

REW
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Not Official Until Council Acts

Daily News Editorial: Moves to change community names may result in the Valley in general gaining a greater sense of place

Posted: 09/25/2011 01:00:00 AM PDT

MAYBE you saw the news last week that a neighborhood in what used to be called Sepulveda, and now is called North Hills (but is known locally as Woodley Hill) wants to be called Northridge. This is one of those ways in which the more things change in the San Fernando Valley, the more they stay the same. In the past generation, more than half a dozen Valley communities have either re-named themselves or adopted the names of neighboring communities.

Three different parts of Van Nuys were chipped off to join Sherman Oaks and form Valley Glen and Lake Balboa. Parts of North Hollywood, Canoga Park and Northridge became, respectively, Valley Village, West Hills and Porter Ranch. The western half of Sepulveda renamed itself North Hills to try to disassociate from the eastern half, whereupon the eastern half renamed itself North Hills.

And now, about 1,300 people in a residential area bordered on the north and south by Lassen and Plummer streets and on the east and west by Woodley Avenue and Bull Creek Wash (just east of Hayvenhurst Avenue) have asked the City Council to change their addresses from North Hills to adjacent Northridge.

Eventually, maybe we'll realize the constant fussing over communities' names robs all communities' names of their value.

Which is ironic, since these name-change bids usually are thinly masked attempts to protect local property values by taking more prosperous-sounding names. That's the case with the current request:

Census data shows that compared to North Hills, the community of Northridge has higher incomes, more college degrees, more elbow room, more two-parent families and more white people.

Such name-changing communities should fear no disapproval from the Los Angeles Daily News (a newspaper that used to call itself the Van Nuys Call, the Van Nuys News, the Valley News and Green Sheet, and the Valley News).

Still, it is fair to ask why people concerned about their community's image don't skip the name-change campaigns and put the same effort into actually sprucing up the community?

One answer is that these aren't cities per se, with their own governments, well-known borders and heartfelt civic pride. These communities are all under the wing of the city of Los Angeles, and increasingly they're just disposable names.

They're also parts of the San Fernando Valley. Perhaps one result of all of this shape-shifting among the individual communities will be an increasing sense of place for the Valley in general.

Longtime residents of a half-mile by half-mile square may find it hard to know what to say when people ask where they're from. Sepulveda? North Hills? Woodley Hill? Northridge?

It's simpler to say you're from the Valley, with confidence the area's mountain borders are going to stay where they are for the foreseeable future.