



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

Parks and Recreation
Executive Director's Office

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November 13, 2019

Re: Proposal to Officially name the Park at 52nd and Steele in the Swansea Neighborhood

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members,

For nearly twenty-five years, residents of the Swansea community have been dealing with the aftermath of a toxic spill that effected the health and environment of the neighborhood for many years. The community's efforts, led by Lorraine Granado, Neighbors for a Toxic Free Community and the Cross-Community Coalition shed light on the circumstances of the spill, identified the responsible parties and the devastating impacts to the community. Lorraine's fought fiercely to hold the company accountable not only for the damages that occurred, but also for the restoration that would be needed to make the community a safe place for all children and families.

Lorraine's leadership and tenacity led to the settlement of a lawsuit brought by the community against the responsible company which provided hundreds of thousands of dollars for community improvements in the Swansea, specifically for a park to be built near the site of the spill. She brought together groups of residents to give input into the park design and function and led the effort to obtain a GOCO grant for the purchase of the property and the raising of additional money used for materials and playground equipment for the park. The following describes the improvements that were gifted:

1. \$175,000 – GOCO Grant for Land Acquisition
2. \$74,554 – Matching Funds from the City and County of Denver
3. \$219,000 – Partner Match, Settlement funds provided by Lorraine and Swansea Neighbors

As benefactors of the acquisition and development of an important neighborhood park and playground, I request your consideration of a proposal to officially name the park at 52nd and Steele Street as the **Lorraine Granado Community Park** pursuant to 4.5.1 of the policy, *Naming of Parks and Recreational Facilities*, effective July 2017. The naming would be an honor and recognition of an extraordinary leader and champion for the Swansea community and the City parks and recreation system. Lorraine Granado embodies the values, commitment and generosity that make Denver a great city to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Happy Haynes