

MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR MICHAEL B. HANCOCK, CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: ALLEGRA "HAPPY" HAYNES
SUBJECT: NAMING OF THE PARK AT ASBURY AND TEJON IN HONOR OF THE HISTORY OF "LA LOMITA"
DATE: AUGUST 23, 2018
CC: SCOTT GILMORE

I am pleased to recommend that the park at Asbury and Tejon, in Council District 7, be named in honor of a beloved local nickname for the park, "La Lomita" (Spanish for "the little hill").

This area of Southwest Denver has a history of families with deep roots in the area and contributions to the neighborhood. The area around the park was affectionately called "Goat Hill" and eventually "La Lomita". In the 1960s, a local restaurant named "La Lomita" (owned and operated by the Abeyta family) became another part of the narrative. This restaurant was a gathering place for people in the area, and a place to continually enjoy good food and meet with friends.

With the park name of "La Lomita Park", the history of this neighborhood can be memorialized, and the contributions of the families of this Southwest Denver community can be celebrated for years to come.

The petition to name the park at Asbury and Tejon was submitted and championed by Councilman Jolon Clark's District 7 office. The petition included:

- 313 complete signatures (13 more than required)
- Four (4) letters or emails of support, including from the Valverde Neighborhood Organization, the College View Neighborhood Association, and the Athmar Park Neighborhood Association

Following the public hearing held on Wednesday, August 8, 2018, where many neighbors came to tell their personal stories of the value of this name, the Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended the park at Asbury and Tejon be named "La Lomita Park" with a unanimous vote.