

**From:** [Sandoval, Amanda P. - CC Member District 1 Denver City Council](#)  
**To:** [Hopson, Mar"quasa R. - CC Council Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Volpe-Beasley, Gina J. - CC City Council Aide](#); [Grunditz, Naomi R. - CC City Council Aide District 1](#); [Santistevan, Manny - CC YA2245 City Council Aide](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] La Raza park renaming  
**Date:** Monday, December 21, 2020 2:42:26 PM

---

For tonight!

Councilwoman Sandoval

-----Original Message-----

From: Valerie <[vgepstein@yahoo.com](mailto:vgepstein@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 12:05 PM  
To: Sandoval, Amanda P. - CC Member District 1 Denver City Council <[Amanda.Sandoval@denvergov.org](mailto:Amanda.Sandoval@denvergov.org)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] La Raza park renaming

Hello, Councilwoman Sandoval. In advance of the park renaming hearing tonight, I just want to write you a quick note to support this change. Names of public spaces are simple ways to honor the contributions and struggles of important people and communities within a larger community. Columbus is someone the greater community has learned to reject as a hero and decry as a dominator of land and people that was already thriving without the destruction and colonialism he brought. It is fitting that the name of a park and anything named after him be renamed now, a time when there is a growing movement of awareness and respect for marginalized and abused peoples.

The Latinx community has been such an Important part of the development of Denver, so why not honor it this way, with a name that serves as a tribute to this particular community but also to the entire community in its reference to all of us, "the people"?

As a resident of NW Denver for the last 10 years and a guilty beneficiary of the fruits of gentrification that have hurt the local Latinx community, I support the renaming of Columbus Park to La Raza.

Sincerely,  
Valerie Epstein-Johnson  
District 1  
4341 Wolff St  
Denver, CO 80212