

WS019: NAME CHANGE - MCGONNELL PARK

Land Description	: McGonnell Park – Reserve Number 33006
Proponent	: City of Albany
Owner	: Crown land – management order City of Albany
Attachments	: ICR13113431 W.3/7 Shire of Albany correspondence Pg 1616 from Government Gazette, WA, 27 May 1983
Responsible Officer(s):	: Executive Director Works & Services (M Thomson)

Responsible Officer's Signature:



STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the [City of Albany Strategic Community Plan 2023](#) and [Corporate Business Plan 2013-2017](#):
 - a. **Key Theme:**2. Clean, Green and Sustainable.
 - b. **Strategic Objective:** 2.1. To protect and enhance our natural environment.
 - c. **Strategic Initiative:** 2.1.1. Reserves Management.

Maps and Diagrams:



In Brief:

- McGonnell Park was officially named in the Government Gazette of 27 May 1983, however the word “Memorial” was omitted from the official name.
- The family of the late Mr D V McGonnell, whom the park is named after, wishes for the park to be changed to that of McGonnell Memorial Park.

RECOMMENDATION

**WS019: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

THAT Council APPROVE the change of name of Reserve 33006 from McGonnell Park to McGonnell Memorial Park.

WS019: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: COUNCILLOR GREGSON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR DOWLING

THAT Council APPROVE the change of name of Reserve 33006 from McGonnell Park to McGonnell Memorial Park.

CARRIED 5-0

WS019: RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

THAT Council APPROVE the change of name of Reserve 33006 from McGonnell Park to McGonnell Memorial Park.

BACKGROUND

2. On 27 May 1983, the government gazetted the naming of Reserve 33006 to that of McGonnell Park. The park contains a rose garden and plaque dedicated to the late Mr McGonnell.
3. The City has received a request from Mrs Joan Waite (the late Mr McGonnell’s wife) to alter the name of the reserve from McGonnell Park to McGonnell Memorial Park.

DISCUSSION

4. Mr D V McGonnell died in a tragic accident at ‘the Gap’ in 1981 and his body was never recovered.
5. The Lions Club of Albany erected a rotunda within the park on which people/families that have lost loved ones in a similar manner and therefore do not have a suitable place to go and reflect (such as a gravesite) have placed memorial plaques on this rotunda.
6. The McGonnell family now feel that the park would be more aptly described as a memorial park and are therefore proposing that the City change the name to ‘McGonnell Memorial Park’.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

7. The proposal, once received by Council, will need to be published for wider public comment for a period of 21 days.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

8. The Land Administration Act 1997, Part 2, Division 3; clause 26. Constitution, etc of land districts and townsites; and 26A Names of roads and areas in new subdivisions, and the Land Information Authority Regulations 2007; clause 3 – Information prescribed as fundamental land information, provide the processes involved with nomenclature in Western Australia.
9. Any person, community group, organisation, government department or local authority can request a new name or an amendment to an existing name or boundary by contacting the Geographic Names Team within Landgate. Consultation with the relevant local authority is required in each case.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

10. There are no policy implications relating to this matter.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

11. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's [Enterprise Risk Management Framework](#).

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
<i>Not supporting the request could indicate incorrect historical information regarding the reason for naming of the park</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Mitigation entirely dependent on Council.</i>

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. No financial implications for Council. The McGonnell family will be paying for alterations to the existing plaque at the rose garden.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no legal implications relating to this matter.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

14. There are no environmental considerations relating to this matter.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

15. The Council may elect not to support the name change to include the word “memorial” into the park name.

SUMMARY CONCLUSION

16. Members of Mr McGonnell's family have requested a change to the name of McGonnell Park in Bayonet Head to include the word 'memorial'. The family is seeking this change as they believe the park is the best place to honour and reflect on a man that gave so much to his community and has no grave.

Consulted References	:	Landgate Geographic Names Committee Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in WA
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	CU.PRA.107 (Yakamia ward)
Previous Reference	:	N/A