



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX.N.
8/29/2017

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: James D. Couch, City Manager

Resolution ratifying the public vote to name the MAPS 3 Downtown Park “Scissortail Park”, 300 SW 7th Street. Ward 6.

Location 300 SW 7th Street

Background The MAPS 3 initiative, approved by Oklahoma City residents in December 2009, includes a 70-acre park that will extend from downtown to the Oklahoma River. The \$132 million park will consist of upper and lower sections connected by the Skydance Bridge. Construction is underway and should be completed in 2021.

Park naming actions typically start with a request to the Parks and Recreation Director, followed by a review and recommendation from the Park Commission, as provided for in the City’s Park Naming and Renaming Policy. However, since the MAPS 3 Downtown Park will be an iconic “community cornerstone” for generations to come, the Mayor’s Office determined that its name should be chosen by a vote of the people through a naming contest in the *Oklahoman*. (The policy encourages public involvement and lists citizen contests as one method of selecting park names.)

In Spring 2017, The City of Oklahoma City collected more than 5,000 naming suggestions from residents and visitors. The Mayor’s Office appointed a citizens’ committee, comprised of civic and business leaders, City officials, and representatives of the City’s Youth Council, to narrow that list to six finalists. Then, the public vote (naming contest) was conducted through the *Oklahoman*. The winning name, “Scissortail Park,” was announced during a groundbreaking ceremony on June 29, 2017.

On August 16, 2017, the Park Commission recommended that the City Council ratify the public’s naming of “Scissortail Park.” Since the policy stipulates that the City Council has final approval of park-naming requests, staff prepared the Resolution to ratify the public naming.

Review Parks and Recreation Department

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.