

Staff Report to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

FROM: Troy Pierce, Project Manager
Clark County Public Works

DATE: July 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Naming Sorenson Neighborhood Park

Executive Summary

As part of the public process for Sorenson Neighborhood Park, conducted in early 2011, neighbors were invited to suggest and vote upon a new name for the park. Of the nine names suggested, six were approved by staff to put up for a vote. Leaving the park name "Sorenson Neighborhood Park" received the most support from neighbors. Staff is seeking formal recognition of "Sorenson Neighborhood Park" as the official name of this park in order to help prevent any future attempts to change its name.

Background

Sorenson Neighborhood Park is located on NW 26th Avenue at 109th Street in the Felida neighborhood. The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission approved the conceptual plan for this park in June 2011. Final design, permitting and construction are currently on hold, pending availability of funding.

"Sorenson Neighborhood Park" is a placeholder name used by staff to identify the property and is not currently the official name of the park. Neighbors were invited to suggest new names for the park as part of the public involvement process after some people expressed an interest in a new name at a public meeting. Neighbors suggested nine different names for the park, including keeping the name "Sorenson." Three of the names, Betty Sue Morris Neighborhood Park, Water Tower Neighborhood Park and Water Tower Hill Neighborhood Park, were removed by staff from consideration because they did not meet Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation's park naming policy requirements. A total of 18 votes were cast with the following results:

We create community through people, parks, programs and partnerships.



Sorenson Neighborhood Park	9
Plum Tree Neighborhood Park	6
Rocky Hill Neighborhood Park	2
Rocky Meadows Neighborhood Park	1
Basin Hill Neighborhood Park	0
The Hill Neighborhood Park	0

This park naming process occurred before the Commission approved the current park naming policy, and is consistent with the terms of the previous policy.

The Sorenson Name

The entire park was once part of a large parcel of land owned by the Sorenson family, which was primarily used for agricultural purposes. Starting in the late 1970s, the Sorensens divided up their property and sold it to a housing developer and at least one other individual. The county purchased the eastern half of the park, including the hill, from the developer in 1978 for use as a future park.

In 2001, the county acquired the western half of the park from the Wiese family, who also purchased it from the Sorensens. This acquisition provided an important access to NW 26th Avenue, thus making the park “whole.”

Budget/Financial Impacts

There are no impacts to the program budget.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the name “Sorenson Neighborhood Park” be officially approved.

Action Requested

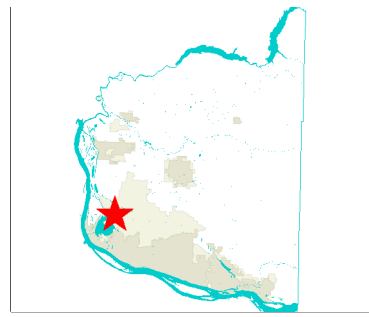
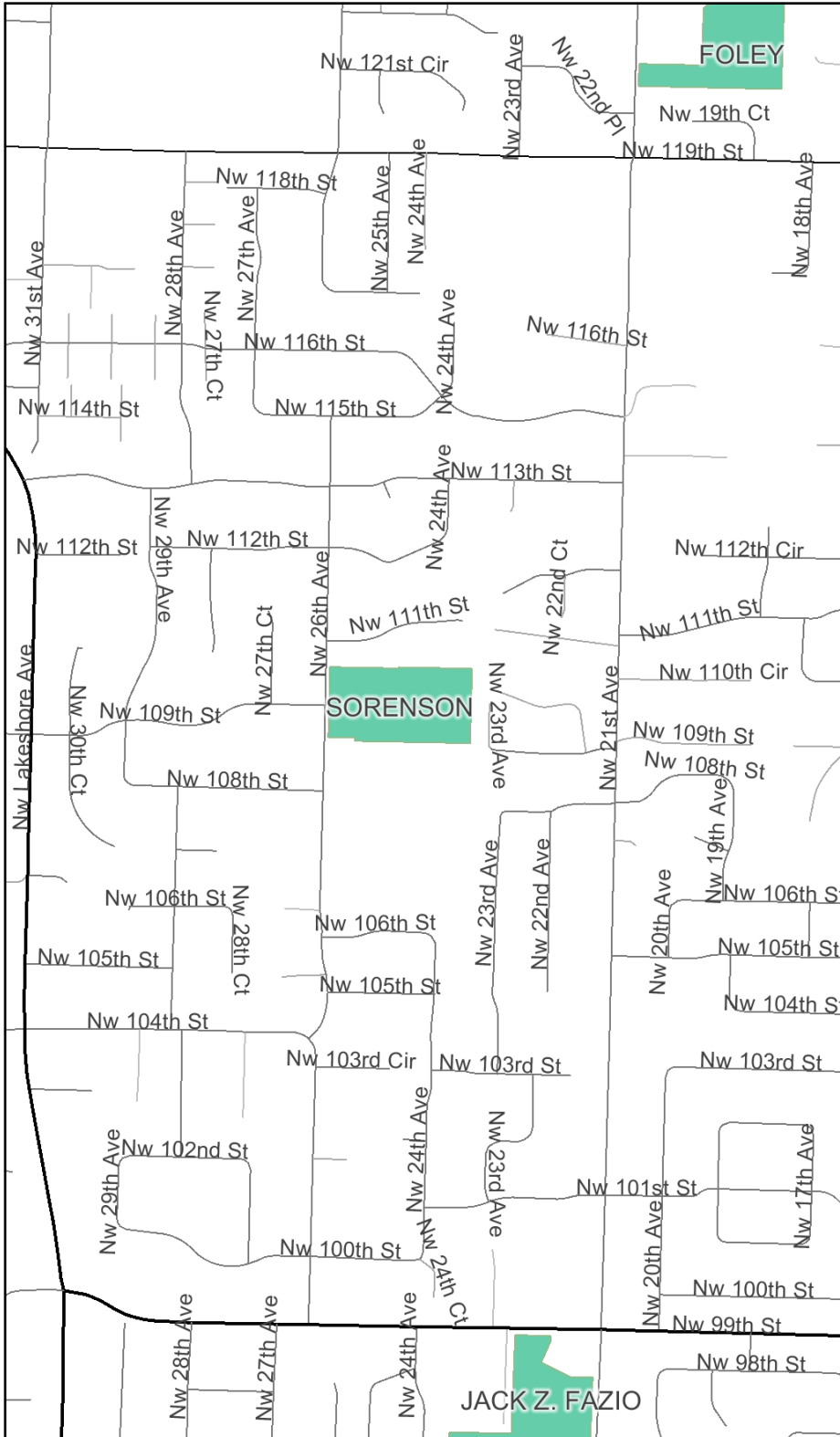
To recommend the Board of Clark County Commissioners approve “Sorenson Neighborhood Park” as the park’s official name.

Exhibits/Attachments

Vicinity map



Sorenson Neighborhood Park



Legend

- Park Land
- Roads**
- Alley
- Arterial
- DNR
- DNR (Private Land)
- Driveway
- Interstate
- Interstate Ramp
- Primary Arterial
- Private Roads
- Private Roads w/o Names
- Public Roads
- SR Ramp
- State Route
- Waterbodies
- Rural Centers
- City Boundaries

0 550 1100 ft.

Map center: 1079351, 141624



Scale: 1:9,459

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.