



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY WARD: 4
SUBJECT: RENAMING OF CASA BLANCA LIBRARY PLAZA IN HONOR OF MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT STAFF SERGEANT SALVADOR LARA

ISSUES:

Approve renaming the Casa Blanca Library Plaza in honor of Medal of Honor recipient Staff Sergeant Salvador J. Lara, determine the placement and material for the designation and authorize the funding of approximately \$4,100 for the project.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve renaming the Casa Blanca Library Plaza in honor of Medal of Honor recipient Staff Sergeant;
2. Determine the placement and material for the designation at the Casa Blanca Library Plaza; and
3. Direct the City Manager, or designee, to identify the funding source.

BACKGROUND:

On April 13, 2016, the Library Department received a proposal (Attachment 1) from the Concerned Citizens of Casa Blanca Committee to rename the Casa Blanca Library the Private First Class (PFC) Salvador J. Lara Casa Blanca Library in honor of Medal of Honor recipient PFC Salvador J. Lara. In 2014, PFC Lara was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his service in the military, including World War II.

On April 25, 2016, the Board of Library Trustees considered the proposal along with the City Naming Policy (Attachment 2), and comments from staff and the community. Following public comment and Board discussion, the Board of Library Trustees voted unanimously in support of the proposal to rename the Casa Blanca Library in honor of Medal of Honor recipient PFC Salvador J. Lara, and to submit the proposals to City Council for consideration.

On June 14, 2016, following discussion, the City Council approved renaming the Casa Blanca Library in honor of Medal of Honor recipient PFC Salvador J. Lara; the City of Riverside to pay renaming costs; and requested discussion of renaming the Casa Blanca Plaza as the Salvador J. Lara Memorial Plaza at a future meeting.

On July 25, 2016, the Board of Library Trustees unanimously approved the proposal to renaming the Casa Blanca Library Plaza in honor of Medal of Honor recipient PFC Salvador Lara, and further submittal to the City Council for consideration.

DISCUSSION:

Previous reports to the Board of Library Trustees and to City Council referred to Staff Sergeant Salvador J. Lara as Private First Class Salvador J. Lara. His correct rank and title is Staff Sergeant as referenced in Senate Concurrent Resolution 38 (Attachment 3).

The Library Department is seeking Council direction on the following details regarding the renaming of the Casa Blanca Library Plaza:

1. Renaming options for the Casa Blanca Library Plaza as the Salvador J. Lara Memorial Plaza as the area in the plaza proper is limited in placement of naming
2. Determine the placement and material for the renamed designation including considerations of the following;
 - a. Matching lettering stating Library and Plaza on the building façade over the entry and facing Madison Street, or
 - b. A mural, display or photo in the interior, which are planned and are in the Library Department's purview.
3. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to determine the funding source.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The estimated cost to match letters on the building façade above the entry and facing Madison Street is \$4,100.

Prepared by: Tonya Kennon, Library Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Scott G. Miller, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by: Alexander Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Concerned Citizens of Casa Blanca Committee Proposal to Rename the Casa Blanca Library in Honor of Medal of Honor recipient PFC Salvador Lara
2. Naming of City Owned Land, Buildings and Facilities Policy
3. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38
4. Presentation