

CITY OF RIVERSIDE
CITY-OWNED LAND, BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES
NAMING/RENAMNG APPLICATION

Names of City-owned land, buildings and facilities located in the city may be nominated by any member of the community. Proposed names must be in accordance with established policy guidelines for naming/renaming of City-owned land, buildings and facilities.

Name being nominated:

Bob Alan Stockton

City-owned amenity proposed to be named/renamed (check all that apply):

Land Building Facility

Address/Location of amenity:

Sycamore Canyon Park – North Arroyo Trail
400 Central Ave., Riverside, CA 92507

What significance does the nominated name have in relation to amenity proposed to be named (check all that apply)?

Neighborhood Geographic Topographic

Historic Cultural Individual

Explain the significance in detail (attached additional sheets and backup documents, such as resumes of individuals, minutes of agency meetings, next of kin endorsement as appropriate and as necessary):

Bob Stockton was a pillar of our community for over 30 years, before he passed away on May 13, 2020. During this time, he became a treasured advocate for the city and its residents and served as a model for civic duty. Bob was a valued mentor and wise sounding board, who dedicated hundreds of thousands of hours to serve the City of Riverside. Bob Stockton brought heart and excellence to everything he put his mind to, and he led a values centric life. The application before you seeks to rename the North Arroyo Trail in Sycamore Canyon after Bob Stockton. This trail was specifically selected because it was a frequent route that Bob used to train with the Woodcrest Christian School Mountain Bike Team and several friends, family, and fellow athletes. Hence, this trail holds meaning to Bob's family and the students and individuals who traveled this trail with Bob. The following sections seek to demonstrate the impact that Bob had on the wider Riverside community.

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Community Leadership

Bob Stockton provided leadership to several organizations that uplift populations across Inland Southern California, including the Riverside YWCA to eliminate racism and empower women, as well as Path of Life Ministries to help the homeless and unsheltered community. He was also deeply connected to the leadership at Sandals Church, was a member of the Riverside Sunrise Rotary, served as an executive leader for the American Heart Association and was active with Doctors Without Borders.

He previously served as chair of the City of Riverside's Board of Public Utilities and as a member of the City's Planning Commission. He served as the 2010 chair of the Chamber's Leadership Riverside program and a member of the California Baptist University School of Engineering Advisory Committee.

An avid supporter of regional water access and sustainability, Stockton was elected by Riverside voters in December 2014, to join the board of directors for Western Municipal Water District.

Bob was a member and vice president of the Monday Morning Group of Western Riverside County, a group of business and civic leaders advocating for economic vitality and improved quality of life for residents in the region. His leadership in the Monday Morning Group's Water and Environment committees was instrumental in advocating for state and federal policies that improved air and water quality, improved sustainability and reliable delivery, and enhanced quality of life.

Business Leadership

Actively involved in his community, Bob Stockton was the 2015-2016 chair of the board for the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and held several leadership positions with that organization. He was actively involved in the business community's successful efforts to work with federal, state, and regional leaders to establish local control of Ontario International Airport, as well as successfully advocating for the creation of the California Air Resources Board's Southern California headquarters facility in Riverside.

Most recently, Stockton was leading several efforts to help local businesses recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and encourage more investment and development in Riverside. He served as chair of the Chamber's COVID-19 Riverside Recovery Task Force.

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Stockton always stepped forward on several issues that impacted the business community in California, including advocating to ease negative impacts from environmental and air quality regulations. He previously testified before Representatives Ken Calvert, Jerry Lewis, and Tom McClintock on the negative impacts that a critical habitat designation for the Santa Ana Sucker Fish would have on the region's access to water.

Professional Impact

Since 1987, Stockton served as principal-in-charge of Rick Engineering's Riverside office and previously held multiple positions at Rick Engineering. Under Stockton's leadership, Rick Engineering helped to construct several projects in the greater Riverside area, notably the Raincross Promenade and Citrus Tower projects in downtown Riverside. Stockton was recently leading efforts to develop the Northside Specific Plan.

In 2012, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Bob to the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists. The 15-member board regulates the civil engineering, land surveying, geology and geophysics industries.

Commitment to Mentoring

Bob coached the Woodcrest Christian High School mountain bike team for several years. He also readily stepped forward to mentor many young professionals in our city. Simply stated, people young and old, looked to Stockton as a friend, coach, and mentor.

Closing

On a personal note, Bob and his wife Kelli were avid cyclists, runners, and triathletes, competing in numerous Ironman and endurance sport events. Bob also trained community members interested in endurance sports. One community member described Bob perfectly as a "constant reminder to serve those around us, selflessly, and with vigor." Bob was humble, served with heart, and always operated with the highest ethics. Bob's daughter Heather captured his spirit perfectly, when she wrote, Bob would want us to "all try, in whatever capacity we have, to be kind to each other. To show up again and again for those who need it. To love, to share, to support. To find ways to show up for someone in our life today, without hope or expectation for something in return. Out of the kindness of your heart." It is without any reservation that I present this renaming application.