



Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 27, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission

Submitted by: Allan Abshez, Chairperson

Subject: Re-Name the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront as Si Se Puede Park

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution re-naming the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront as Si Se Puede Park.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Renaming the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront will require replacement signage with an estimated cost of approximately \$16,000, which is not identified in the PRW FY2027-28 budget.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In the Council agenda for March 24, 2026, Councilmember Kesarwani and co-sponsors Taplin, Bartlett, and Blackaby made a referral to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission as follows: Refer to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission to officially rename Cesar Chavez Park. This referral to the Parks Commission initiates a community process which should incorporate feedback from the Commemorative Committee (which initiated the first renaming process of the park in 1994) as well as input from other community members and stakeholders. We recommend that Dolores Huerta be among the options considered for renaming (see Attachment 2).

In the Council agenda for April 14, 2026, Mayor Ishii made a referral to the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission as follows: Refer to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley, may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America (see Attachment 2).

In response to the referrals regarding the renaming of the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront, at its regular meetings of May 13, June 10, July 8, and September 10, 2026, the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission agendaized this item and heard public comment on the renaming of the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront. The Commission gave deference to the work and recommendations of the Commemorative Renaming Committee as had been requested by the City Council in its referral of the matter to the Commission. Per the Council Naming Policy procedures, on July 8, 2026, the PRW Commission conducted a public hearing, and on September 10, 2026, took action to recommend that Council rename the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront as Si Se Puede Park as recommended by the Commemorative Renaming Committee. (M/S/C: Stewart/Granzella/U); Ayes: Abshez; Granzella; Nash; Philip; Rybczynski; Samelson; Stewart; Noes: none; Absent: Muszynski; Yeo.

BACKGROUND

The Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission agendaized this item and heard public comments at its regular meetings in May, June, July, and September of 2026. Public comments received by the Commission, including the work of the Commemorative Renaming Committee suggested several possible names (see Attachment 2).

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager takes no position on the recommendation contained in this report. The cost of the replacement signage is \$16,000, which is not identified in the PRW FY2027-28 budget. Once the City has identified funds, the signage can be ordered and installed in a three month period.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no negative environmental impacts were identified as a result of this recommendation.

RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION

At its regular meetings of May 13, June 10, July 8, and September 10, 2026, the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission agendaized this item and heard public comment on the renaming of the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront. The PRW Commission concurs with the work of the Commemorative Renaming Committee to rename the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront as Si Se Puede Park.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CONTACT PERSON

Allan Abshez, Chair, Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission, 310-922-7573
Roger Miller, Secretary, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission, 510-981-6704

Rename the park at northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront as Si Se Puede Park

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 27, 2026

Attachments:

1: Resolution;

2: Council Referrals of March 24 and April 14, 2026, the Commemorative Renaming Committee Report of June 3, 2026, and public comments

RESOLUTION NO. – N.S.

RE-NAME THE PARK AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE BERKELEY WATERFRONT
AS SI SE PUEDE PARK

WHEREAS, in the Council agenda for March 24, 2026, Councilmember Kesarwani and co-sponsors Taplin, Bartlett, and Blackaby made a referral to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission as follows: Refer to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission to officially rename Cesar Chavez Park. This referral to the Parks Commission initiates a community process which should incorporate feedback from the Commemorative Committee (which initiated the first renaming process of the park in 1994) as well as input from other community members and stakeholders. We recommend that Dolores Huerta be among the options considered for renaming; and

WHEREAS, in the Council agenda for April 14, 2026, Mayor Ishii made a referral to the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission as follows: Refer to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley, may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America; and

WHEREAS, in response to the referrals regarding the renaming of the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront, at its regular meetings of May 13, June 10, July 8, and September 10, 2026, the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission agendized this item and heard public comment on the renaming of the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront. The Commission gave deference to the work and recommendations of the Commemorative Renaming Committee as had been requested by the City Council in its referral of the matter to the Commission; and

WHEREAS, per the Council Naming Policy procedures, on July 8, 2026, the PRW Commission conducted a public hearing, and on September 10, 2026, took action to recommend that Council rename the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront as Si Se Puede Park as recommended by the Commemorative Renaming Committee. (M/S/C: Stewart/Granzella/U); Ayes: Abshez; Granzella; Nash; Philip; Rybczynski; Samelson; Stewart; Noes: none; Absent: Muszynski; Yeo.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the park at the northern end of the Berkeley Waterfront is named Si Se Puede Park.



Rashi Kesarwani
Councilmember, District 1

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 24, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani (Author), Councilmembers Terry Taplin, Ben Bartlett and Brent Blackaby (Co-Sponsors)

SUBJECT: Referral to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission to officially Rename Cesar Chavez Park.

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission to officially rename Cesar Chavez Park. This referral to the Parks Commission initiates a community process which should incorporate feedback from the Commemorative Committee (which initiated the first renaming process of the park in 1994) as well as input from other community members and stakeholders. We recommend that Dolores Huerta be among the options considered for renaming.

And further, direct the City Manager to remove or cover all signage bearing the name Cesar Chavez from park property as soon as practicable while leaving intact signage related to directions and park rules.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On March 18, 2026, *The New York Times* published an investigation finding extensive evidence that United Farm Workers (UFW) co-founder Cesar Chavez, now deceased, sexually abused young girls and women who worked within The Farmworkers Movement.¹ Two women, now in their sixties, described to the *Times* how the civil rights icon and leader abused them for years. The investigation, based on interviews with more than 60 people—including top aides, relatives, and members of the UFW—found extensive evidence to support their accusations and those raised by several other women, including Dolores Huerta, working within The Movement.

That same day, Dolores Huerta issued a statement publicly acknowledging the abuse she had kept secret for the last six decades in the interest of protecting The Farmworkers Movement.² Huerta identified herself as a survivor “of violence, of sexual abuse, of domineering men who saw me, and other women, as property, or things to control....” Huerta also commented that she carried this secret for years “because building the movement and securing farmworker rights was my life’s work...I channeled

¹ New York Times, March 18, 2026: “Cesar Chavez, a Civil Rights Icon, Is Accused of Abusing Girls for Years” <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/cesar-chavez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>

² Medium, March 18, 2026: “A Statement from Dolores Huerta” https://medium.com/@dolores_huerta/march-18-2026-e74c20430555

everything I had into advocating on behalf of millions of farmworkers and others who were suffering and deserved equal rights.”³

That inner strength and dedication to human rights sustained Dolores Huerta throughout her entire career. In addition to co-leading the UFW, she worked with the Feminist Majority Foundation to help Latina women become more active within politics, founded the Dolores Huerta Foundation⁴ that advocates for social justice issues and marginalized communities through grassroots organizing and civic engagement, and has been active in politics by supporting causes such as immigration reform and LGBTQ rights.

Born on April 10, 1930 in New Mexico, Dolores Huerta grew up mostly in California, moving to the state during her early elementary school years after her mother divorced her father. Throughout her life, she has remained active in California-based human rights issues, starting with her deep involvement supporting farmworkers throughout the state, continuing on with the Bakersfield-based Dolores Huerta Foundation, as well as her campaigning for statewide propositions and supporting local politicians. In addition to her many awards honoring her human rights work, the California State Senate awarded Ms. Huerta “Outstanding Labor Leader” in 1984. In 2018, then-Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Assembly Bill 2644, first introduced by Assemblywoman Eloise Gomez Reyes, designating April 10th Dolores Huerta Day.⁵

BACKGROUND

Cesar Chavez Park was officially renamed after the labor leader on July 26, 1994 when the Berkeley City Council passed resolution No. 57,627 N.S. (attached). Before that it had been called North Waterfront Park. The name change was in recognition of the labor leader’s influence on the Berkeley community and the rest of the world, and to commemorate his life’s work for future generations. When news of the sexual abuse accusations against him surfaced on March 18th, many residents reached out to City Council inquiring about changing the name of this park, reflecting community members’ current pain and anger that a leader of such significance would use his status to dominate, silence, and abuse women who worked beside him.

Since the news broke, cities, school districts, and leaders throughout the state and country have been grappling with the information and the many public facilities and events that have honored Cesar Chavez. As a once-revered labor hero, many parks, pathways, streets, murals, schools, and community buildings bear his name as a way to honor his work and advocacy on behalf of workers. Currently, many city, school board and state leaders are considering changing the names of the facilities that honor him, as *Berkeleyside* and *The San Francisco Chronicle* have covered.⁶ State legislators have

³ Medium, March 18, 2026: “A Statement from Dolores Huerta”

https://medium.com/@dolores_huerta/march-18-2026-e74c20430555

⁴ Dolores Huerta Foundation: <https://doloreshuerta.org/>

⁵ Dolores Huerta Wikipedia page: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolores_Huerta

⁶ *Berkeleyside*, March 18 article by Natalie Orenstein, Alec N. Gecan, Vanessa Arredondo, Felicia Mello and Zac Farber: “Berkeley lionized Cesar Chavez. Now it’s reevaluating” <https://www.berkeleyside.org/2026/03/18/cesar-chavez-berkeley-reevaluates> and San Francisco Chronicle March 19 article by Roland Li: Cesar Chavez’s name is all over the Bay Area. Will streets, schools and parks get renamed?” <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/cesar-chavez-name-streets-parks-rename-22083714.php>

agreed to legislation to rename the upcoming holiday on March 31, 2026 Farmworker Day.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Like others, community leaders in Berkeley are struggling to integrate the painful news of the accusations against Cesar Chavez while many are also wanting to elevate and honor Dolores Huerta who shines as a pillar of strength even more so now that we know she hid her own pain in an effort to focus on support for laborers. Dolores Huerta has accomplishments as a labor organizer equal to Cesar Chavez, as well as a significant background advocating for human rights issues. Considering renaming the park for her would be a fitting tribute to her life and accomplishments and her survivorship..

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There is no significant environmental impact of this referral. Renaming the park could be a way of promoting a sense of healing within the community and thus be a way of advancing a more positive social environment.

FISCAL IMPACT

This referral has no fiscal impact save staff time for the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission secretary. It is expected that this commission would also investigate costs for replacement signage to accommodate the renaming.

CONTACT PERSON

Rashi Kesarwani, Councilmember District 1

(510) 981-7110

Attachments:

- 1) Resolution NO. 57,627-N.S. RE-NAMING NORTH WATERFRONT PARK THE "CESAR E. CHAVEZ PARK"

CITYWIDE COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE AGENDA
Zoom meeting tentatively planned for Monday, April 13, 5 pm

REBOOT CITYWIDE COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE & MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BUSD AND COB

Mayor Ishii's representative (Andrea Bernal) ?	Todd Kerr, Editor, Berkeley Times
BUSD Supt. Representative	Beatriz Leyva Cutler, BUSD Director, Emeritus
School Board Rep - Ana Vasudeo	Seasonal Gathering Coordinator (Vivian White)
State Senator Arreguin's rep - Ariana Casanova	Santiago Casal, Founder/Director, Tribute Site
Council representative (Cecilia Lunaparra, or D1/D2)	Coordinator of Site Stewards (Carlos Hill)
Latinos Unidos rep (Lupe Gallego-Diaz, Chair)	BCC rep (Lissette Flores)
BFT representative (Matt Meyer)	Multicultural Institute (Mirna Cervantes)
Ecology Center rep. (Martin Bourque)	Adult School (?)
UCB rep (Rubén Lizardo, Dir. Govt. & Com. Relations)	
Sheila Jordan, Alam Cty Brd of Ed, Emeritus)	
Martin Nicolaus, CEO of the C..... Park Conservancy	

DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND CHANGES TO PARK

- The name of the park.
- Statement on how to strongly frame any references to Chavez.
- Update and replace, the three main signs at the Park (Partially removed)
And within those signs the 12" by 25" updated section on the Tribute Site (DONE)
- Remove the wood pieces above the three main signs that say "Cesar E. Chavez Park) (DONE)
- Chavez Park road signage routing people driving toward the Park.

BUSD CHANGES

- Remove/Replace Chavez related curriculum for Commemorative Period
- **NOTE:** Begin to work on how to introduce all this to Berkeley Students, particularly around boys and demeaning and exploitive attitudes/behavior toward young women and girls, and sexual violence in general.

See attached article from EdSource - <https://edsource.org/2026/cesar-chavez-schools-remove-names/754713>

CHANGES TO CITYWIDE COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE

In addition to weighing in on the above:

- Change the name of the Citywide *Commemorative Period*
- Rethink *Commemorative Period dates*: Currently March 20th (Planting Season), thru Chavez Day, March 31 and on to April 10 Dolores' birthday.
- The name of the Chavez Park Conservancy, which is already underway
- The name of the Cesar Chavez Off Leash Area at the Park, which is also underway

REVIEW CHANGES TO TRIBUTE SITE

- Seek City funding for the following:
- Change name of Tribute Site
- Redesign and reproduce all the signage (8 signs) and half of the audio and video pieces linked to QR Codes (i.e., 6 audio and video pieces)
- Redesign/produce the content of the website: www.solarcalendar.org
- Redesign the content and name of Commemorative Period website: chavezhuerta.org
- Change Email address – chavezhuertatributesite@gmail.com to tributesite@gmail.com??

Other changes??



CONSENT CALENDAR

April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Adena Ishii (Author), and Council Members Lunaparra, Humbert and O'Keefe (Co-Sponsors)

Subject: Referral to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez, and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley, may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.

BACKGROUND

Cesar Chavez, the late United Farm Workers (UFW) co-founder and labor leader has long been an icon and hero to communities across the country. Berkeley has a long history of honoring the legacy of Cesar Chavez dating back to 1996 by naming the City's waterfront park after him and with an official city holiday that aligns with the State of California holiday. Over the years, the City has worked collaboratively with the Latinx community, local educational institutions, and community based organizations to organize commemorative activities that honor Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and farm workers.

The following is an initial list of locations and events:

- Cesar Chavez Park (1996)
- Cesar Chavez Day -March 30/31 (2000 - aligned with the State Holiday)
- Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site and Solar Calendar (2011)
- Cesar Chavez-Dolores Huerta Commemorative Period (2021)
- Cesar Chavez Park Perimeter Trail Project (2024 -aka Olivia Stegman Trail)

On March 18, 2026, the New York Times published an in-depth investigation documenting extensive evidence that Mr. Chavez groomed and sexually abused young girls who worked in the farmworker movement¹. In the same story it was revealed that Mr. Chavez raped UFW co-founder Dolores Huerta. After 60 years of silence, Ms. Huerta, a renowned labor leader and civil rights activist issued a statement with her personal story recounting how Chavez had raped her and how she stayed silent because she “believed that exposing the truth would hurt the farmworker movement I have spent my entire life fighting for.”²

The members of the Berkeley City Council condemns sexual violence and stands with the survivors who bravely told their story. In light of the in-depth reporting of credible accusations against Mr. Chavez the City must work on a path forward to remove Cesar Chavez’s name from city locations, events, and holidays.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No Impact

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Staff time to develop a plan and cost allocation to change the name.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No name change

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Adena Ishii
(510) 981-7100

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/cesar-chavez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>

² https://medium.com/@dolores_huerta/march-18-2026-e74c20430555?

Miller, Roger

From: Nancy Carleton <nancy94705@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 12:32 PM
To: All Council; Manager, C
Cc: Miller, Roger
Subject: Renaming Cesar Chavez Park and the Legacy of the Farmworker Movement

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers (with cc to members of the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission):

Some thoughts on renaming Cesar Chavez Park, from someone who volunteered extensively for the UFW in the 1970s and was a full-time volunteer 1975-1976: Like many I was shocked to learn of the sexual assault allegations against Cesar Chavez as reported recently in the New York Times. I was already disillusioned about the UFW by 1977. I later submitted a lengthy essay to the Farmworker Movement Documentation Project, whose archives are stored at UC San Diego. In it I did my best to describe my experiences both positive and negative of that time as a low-level volunteer for "la causa." But while I'd seen firsthand that in addition to being a brilliant and charismatic organizer, Cesar was a petty tyrant whose paranoia was becoming more and more damaging to the farmworker cause by the late 1970s, I never would have predicted sexual abuse, of which he now stands credibly accused. I guess I still bought his carefully crafted persona as a servant leader who led a life of almost monklike simplicity.

But here's what I'll say to my well-meaning friends who'd simply like to swap out Cesar Chavez's name with Dolores Huerta's name on streets, parks, and holidays: While Chavez's flaws now include sexual transgressions, all of the leadership of the UFW, including Huerta, share responsibility for the hierarchical UFW culture that prohibited debate, mandated silence, and punished even the mildest questioning, dissent, or truth-telling (witness the staff purges of the late 1970s well documented in books as well as articles in the LA Times). I have great admiration for Dolores Huerta and the many good causes she has supported over the decades. And I understand that as a woman of my mother's generation -- their birthdays are one day apart -- there is deeply ingrained conditioning at play. But withholding the truth about her experience for decades strikes me as not so far removed from the many ways the UFW leadership, including Huerta, tried to control what could and could not be said through a code of silence as well as an undemocratic and authoritarian structure.

It's the farmworkers themselves, along with their supporters across the country, who made the movement. Could it be time to release the idea that we have honor individual heroes rather than the movements they represent? Can we at long last learn from the flaws not just of one man but of entire structures? I continue to bow before the many, many individuals I met while working for the UFW, some depicted in the drawing below. They will always represent to me the best of humanity, whatever the flaws of the leadership they followed. Together they won important improvements for farmworkers, but much more remains to be done. I'm grateful to the State of California legislature and governor for renaming this year's March 31st holiday Farmworkers Day.

I trust you will allow a full community process to unfold as you consider alternate names for our precious park by the bay. I hope you will refrain from honoring a specific individual as you rename the park.

Farmworkers -- who harvest the food we all eat -- and the movement they built deserve consideration in that process.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy Carleton

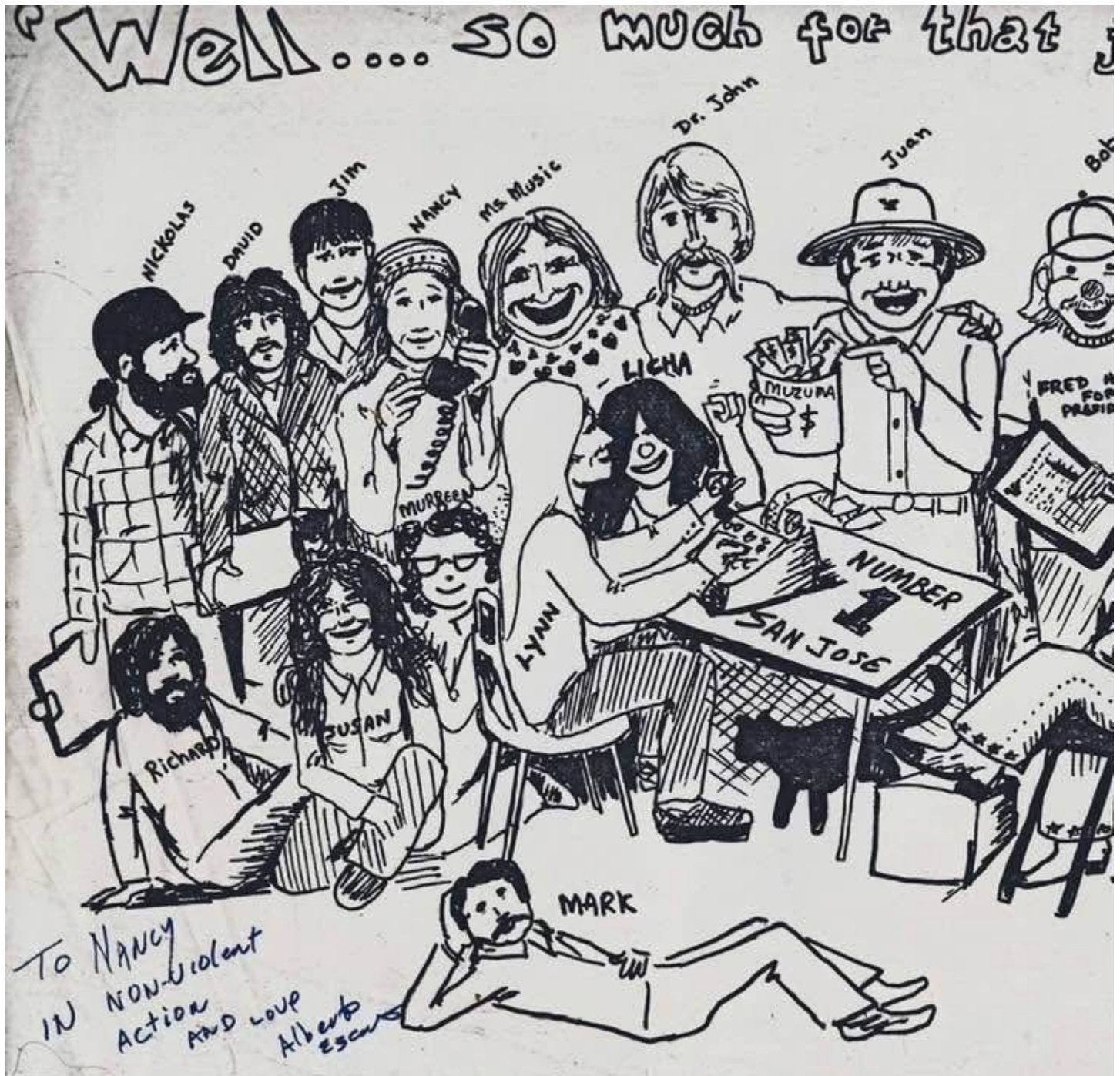
Former Vice Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission (before the Waterfront was added!)

Former UFW staff, 1975-1976

3044-B Halcyon Ct.

Berkeley CA 94705

510-644-0172



(Art by Alberto Escalante, 1976, depicting the incredible San Jose Boycott staff, who helped get Prop. 14 on the ballot in record time in the spring of that year. I'm the organizer fourth from left, top row, with the ubiquitous phone in my hand.)

Miller, Roger

From: Ryan <ryncsy@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 18, 2026 4:18 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: All Council; Save CC
Subject: Cesar Chavez Park - Renaming & PRW Item

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon

I'm emailing you today about the upcoming name change to Cesar Chavez Park. Is this item going to be at the next PRW meeting?

I would like to suggest that the City not rename the park after another person. Rather it should be a generic name, like "Bay Park" or " North Waterfront Park".

Thanks,

Ryan Casey
1300 Parker Street
951-265-6314

Miller, Roger

From: Everett Wetchler <everett.wetchler@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 18, 2026 4:37 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: All Council
Subject: New name for CCP. Please include in the PRW agenda item.

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Miller,

I have been informed that the Park, Recreation, and Waterfront (PRW) commissioners are seeking public comments and suggestions about a new name for what was formally called Cesar Chavez Park.

Please inform the PRW that I would like the Park's new name to be: "Isle of Dogs"

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Everett Wetchler

Miller, Roger

From: Jen Chou <jelo510@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 12:23 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: All Council
Subject: Suggestions for renaming Cesar Chavez Park

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for considering what to rename the Cesar Chavez park.

I go to the park several times a week, and have winced every time referring to it by that name since the NY Times article came out.

-As Chavez was an activist for farmworkers, how about Farmworkers Park?

Other notable activists for farmworkers:

-Dolores Huerta https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolores_Huerta

-Larry Itliong ... https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larry_Itliong

To change topics, how about the Burrowing Owl Park? (To bring public awareness)

Thanks for your kind attention,
Jennifer Chou
Berkeley resident since 2003

Jennifer S. Chou

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.

Miller, Roger

From: Sherry Shannon <sherry.sfbike@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 11:00 AM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: All Council; Save CC
Subject: New name for CCP

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Miller,

I have been informed that the Park, Recreation, and Waterfront (PRW) commissioners are seeking public comments and suggestions about a new name for what was formally called Cesar Chavez Park.

Please inform the PRW that I would like the Park's new name to be: "Dolores Huerta Park"

Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Sherry Shannon

"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made... It shouldn't be that women are the exception." —Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Miller, Roger

From: Ken Blum <ecuadorblum@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 1:57 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: All Council
Subject: Re:North Waterfront Park Name

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To Mayor Miller,

Please create a committee of citizens to figure out new name for this park.
Keep the North Waterfront name until a more descriptive and wonderful name is chosen.

I have used this park hundreds of times because my Cal graduate son lives in the area.

Best,
Ken Blum
Santa Monica, CA

Miller, Roger

From: Daniel Borgstrom <danielfortyone@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 8:43 PM
To: Miller, Roger; All Council
Cc: Martin Nicolaus; savecc6@gmail.com
Subject: Suggested name for the Waterfront Park

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Roger Miller and Berkeley City Council,

Since so many interesting birds live in the Berkeley Waterfront Park, I suggest we name it

"Jardin de los pajaros"

Sincerely,
Daniel Borgstrom



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Miller, Roger

From: Virginia Browning <vexxie@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 2:16 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: All Council
Subject: Name for Chavez Park

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I suggest El Jardin. (The garden) It's Spanish which continues connection with the farmworker theme to some degree. Has a nice sound. It seems appropriate as the place has been recycled into a lovely garden from the waste site that it was before. Thank you, I'm in District 1.

My partner suggests El Jardin de Pajaros (of birds) .

Virginia Browning

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Miller, Roger

From: Gerald Derblich <yidlgetzl@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 4:09 PM
To: Save CC
Cc: All Council; Miller, Roger
Subject: Re: Time to rename CCP! This is an opportunity to voice your opinion to the PRW and City Counsel regarding a new name for our beloved park.

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

On Apr 21, 2026, at 1:30 PM, Save CC <saveecc6@gmail.com> wrote:

Time to rename CCP! This is an opportunity to voice your opinion to the PRW and City Counsel regarding a new name for our beloved park.

Dear Friends of North Waterfront Park and the Off-Leash-Area (OLA)!

(As I mentioned earlier, I will use the original name of the park, "North Waterfront Park," until a new name has been decided.)

Allison & Bodhi recently sent this message to me:

I attended a PRW (Park, Recreation, and Waterfront) meeting this evening and it sounds like **Cesar Chavez Park is going to be renamed**. The PRW was supposed to have a public hearing on it tonight but there were only 4 people attending and they decided they will take more public comment before deciding. **I wanted to let you know that they will bring this up again at the next meeting on the May 13th agenda**. Seems there's a shared agreement of the commission that the park will not be renamed after another person. A suggestion provided by a community member was the original name: "North Waterfront Park."

Just an FYI for you, this could be the optimal time for a poll from your followers and bring the results to the next PRW meeting on May 13th.

There you have it. If you are receiving this message, I know that you use or have used the Park. It doesn't matter where you live. If you are a Berkeley resident or not, now is the time to send the PRW, the City Counsel, and the mayor the new name you would like for our park.

This is your park so thanks for helping to keep it clean and safe, Jeff

.....

Please send your suggestions and/or comments to:

Roger Miller at: rmiller@berkeleyca.gov

Copy: council@berkeleyca.gov

This email goes directly to the mayor, each individual Councilmember, and the City Clerk for inclusion in the public record.

Copy me at: savecc6@gmail.com

Subject line: New name for CCP. Please include in the PRW agenda item.

Dear Mr. Miller,

I have been informed that the Park, Recreation, and Waterfront commissioners are seeking public comments and suggestions about a new name for what was formally called Cesar Chavez Park.

Please inform the PRW that I would like the Park's new name to be: "Bayview Park....."

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Gerald Derblich

2410 Jefferson Avenue 94703

Miller, Roger

From: judyandrich <judyandrich@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 8:59 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Subject: Park rename

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Please rename Cesar Chavez park to become Delores Huerta Park.

Miller, Roger

From: Sally Nelson <sallynels7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 8:03 PM
To: Miller, Roger; Miller@berkeleyca.gov; All Council; All Council
Cc: savecc6@gmail.com
Subject: New name for CCP. Please include in the PRW agenda item.

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Miller,

I have been informed that the Park, Recreation, and Waterfront commissioners are seeking public comments and suggestions about a new name for what was formally called Cesar Chavez Park.

Please inform the PRW that I would like the Park's new name to be: "Burrowing Owl Park"

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Sally Nelson
D-4
2200 McGee Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94703

Miller, Roger

From: Virginia Browning <vexxie@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 7:18 AM
To: Miller, Roger; All Council
Cc: Martin Nicolaus
Subject: De Colores (UFW anthem title) for Chavez Park name

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

For some reason it has been decreed that labor and farmworkers be honored with the renaming of Chavez Park. While always worthy of honor, many never understood what farmworkers or UFW (United Farmworkers Union) had to do with Chavez Park. HOWEVER,

I hit on the anthem used by the UFW, "De Colores." It is appropriate in honoring the United Farmworker theme, and also in honoring the multifarious colors in evidence daily at the park, new each day.

Here's a thumbnail history of the song, not written by Chavez but going back to the 16th century, though adopted as a well-known anthem sung by Dolores Huerta's UFW movement. Below that are 2 renditions and the lyrics. While we don't have chickens (as briefly mentioned in the song) we sometimes have turkeys and many singing birds, as in the song. And anyway the literalness of this traditional song in praise of all was never the point.

Virginia Browning
see below:

from AI summary: "De Colores" is a traditional Spanish folk song with unknown, ancient origins, likely brought from Spain to the Americas in the 16th century. It is considered a Mexican folk song celebrating creation, and it later became the anthem of the [United Farm Workers union](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwAi4dQHqys>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aRZLbZFeLU>

De Colores
De Colores se visten los campos en la primavera
De Colores
De Colores son los pajarillos que vienen de afuera
De Colores
De Colores es el arco iris que vemos lucir

Y por eso los grandes amores
De muchos colores
Me gustan a mi

Y por eso los grandes amores

De muchos colores
Me gustan a mi

Canta el gallo
Canta el gallo con el quiri quiri quiri quiri quiri
La gallina
La gallina con el cara cara cara cara cara
Los polluelos
Los polluelos con el pio pio pio pio pi

Y por eso los grandes amores
De muchos colores
Me gustan a mi

Y por eso los grandes amores
De muchos colores
Me gustan a mi



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Miller, Roger

From: Save CC <savecc6@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2026 1:15 PM
To: Save CC; Miller, Roger; Allan Abshez & Jasper
Subject: New name for CCP. Please include in the PRW agenda item.

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Miller and Mr. Abshez,

On April 8 I received the message below from one of 4 attendees at the PRW meeting:

I attended a PRW (Park, Recreation, and Waterfront) meeting this evening and it sounds like Cesar Chavez Park is going to be renamed. The PRW was supposed to have a public hearing on it tonight but there were only 4 people attending and they decided they will take more public comment before deciding. I wanted to let you know that they will bring this up again at the next meeting on the May 13th agenda. Seems there's a shared agreement of the commission that the park will not be renamed after another person. A suggestion provided by a community member was the original name: "North Waterfront Park."

Just an FYI for you, this could be the optimal time for a poll from your followers and bring the results to the next PRW meeting on May 13th.

I confirmed this message was correct with another attendee. Since I was under the assumption that the PRW was interested in taking more public comment before deciding on a name for what was CCP, I sent a request to our group asking for suggestions to be emailed to you and the City Counsel. This is the reason you have been receiving emails about suggested names.

Then, on April 21 I received an email from Mr. Casal asking if I wanted to join the "Citywide Commemorative Committee" to come up with a name for the park. The "Committee" is composed of 21 people representing various groups. I declined the invitation since I do not have time to join the committee but more importantly, I really thought the naming process would be open to the general public.

Now that I have been informed this is not the case, I would still like to list the suggestions from our group. I will include mine as well since I don't see anything prohibiting our suggestions:

Gerald Derblich suggested "Bayview Park"
Berkeley

Virginia Browning and her partner suggested: "El Jardin" and "El Jardin de Pajaros"
Berkeley

Ryan Casey suggested: "Bay Park" or "North Waterfront Park"
Berkeley

Everett Wetchler suggested "Isle of Dogs"
Berkeley

Michael & Hannah Bennett suggested “Blackbird Park” (for the Red Winged Blackbirds)
Berkeley

David King suggested “George Washington Park”

Sherry Shannon suggested “Dolores Huerta Park”

Sally Nelson suggested “Burrowing Owl Park”
Berkeley

Gianna Michael suggested “Berkeley Paradise Peninsula”
Berkeley

Judy Andrich suggested “Delores Huerta Park”

Daniel Borgstrom suggested "Jardin de los Pajaros"

Kristine Larsen suggested “Blue Heron Park” or “Brown Pelican Park”

Kathleen McLaughlin suggested “Berkeley Waterfront Park” or “Berkeley Marina Park”

Regarding my suggestions, I learned from Mr. Casal’s email that a set of Criteria has also been established. In keeping with the Criteria, I suggest any of the following:

Parque de los Obreros
Parque de los Olvidados
Parque del Bracero
Parque de los Braceros

or:

Jardín de los Obreros
Jardín de los Olvidados
Jardín del Bracero
Jardín de los Braceros

All of my suggestions should be self-explanatory with two exceptions: Parque de los Olvidados and Jardín de los Olvidados. All of these suggestions however are keeping with the Criteria.

For 38 years I have worked to help severely injured limited English and mono-lingual Spanish speakers navigate the worker comp system to obtain their rightful vocational benefits. Of the more than 10,000 (!) injured workers I have helped during these nearly 4 decades, the vast majority have been agricultural field workers and laborers. For some, I had the opportunity to develop and coordinate funding for scores of self-employment plans for injured Spanish speakers in rural Mexico and Central America. Examples include shoe repair shops, dairy farms, slaughterhouses, lime orchards, cattle breeding farms, bakeries, an art gallery, grocery stores, tailor shops, and one of my favorites, I had a computer/internet facility at primary school in a rural village installed.

Nevertheless, for the vast majority of limited English and mono-lingual Spanish speaking injured workers, I have seen firsthand the rampant system-wide bias and disastrous effects they and their families experience as the result of work related injuries. Once injured, these workers have no use to their prior employers or any other employer. Their primary value was their pre-injury physical abilities. Once injured, these agricultural workers

and laborers are, in essence, tossed aside like so much debris and forgotten. For these thousands upon thousands of injured agricultural workers and laborers, I suggest Parque de los Olvidados or Jardín de los Olvidados.

Regardless of my suggestions, I believe that all suggestions made by the public should also be entitled to fair consideration.

Thank you,

Jeff Malmuth
Berkeley D-1

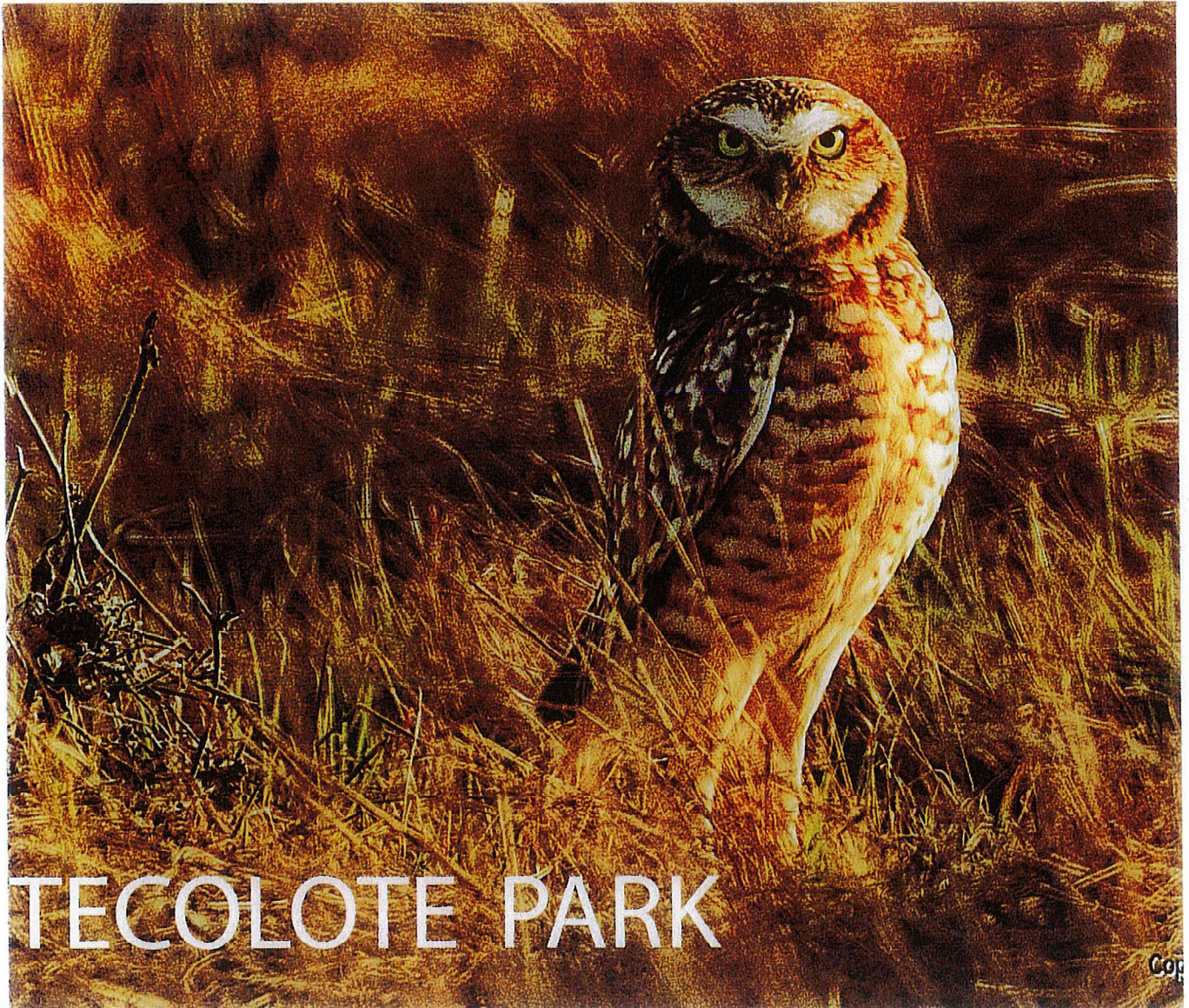
Miller, Roger

From: Wendy Abshez <wendyabshez@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 2:44 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Subject: Tonight's PRWC Meeting - Agenda Item 16

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

TECOLOTE PARK

My name is Wendy Abshez. I live in Berkeley. I've been a docent at the Shorebird Park Nature Center in the Berkeley Marina for about 3 years. As a volunteer at the Nature Center I've spent a lot of time in the marina with school kids who are visiting on field trips. We take bird walks, search the muddy shoreline for crabs and discover the colorful sponges that live on the docks. When I'm there I am continually amazed that an area that is landfill and totally man-made has become such a rich habitat for all kinds of life. Now that a new name is being considered for the Cesar Chavez portion of the park, I think it's a wonderful chance to choose a name that highlights an actual feature of this specific location. You probably already know that there is a very special species of migratory owl that spends the fall and winter months here. Western Burrowing Owls were once abundant in California but are now listed as a California Species of Concern due to their greatly reduced numbers. One of the few areas you can find them is right here in Berkeley. They live in abandoned ground squirrel burrows on the grassy hills of Cesar Chavez Park. They are here from about October until March. They're diurnal and spend most of their time on the ground, so if you're lucky you might see one, but they are rare, and we are very lucky to have them right here in Berkeley. I'm asking the commission to consider renaming Cesar Chavez Park for these unique and amazing birds. I know other people have suggested the name Burrowing Owl Park, but I have a slightly different idea. In Mexico they call these small owls "Tecolote". It's a word that came to Mexican Spanish from an indigenous Mexican language. Naming the park Tecolote Park evokes this beautiful animal, but also honors and will be an enduring reminder of Berkeley's rich and diverse cultural heritage. That's why I think it's a great choice. Thank you for allowing me this time and I hope you'll give serious consideration to renaming the park Tecolote Park.



Miller, Roger

From: Beatriz Leyva-Cutler <beatrizleyvac@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 3:50 PM
To: Ferris, Scott; Miller, Roger
Cc: Santiago Casal; Natasha Beery
Subject: Recommendation for renaming Meeting on June 10, 2026
Attachments: 1. Park Renaming Report for 6_10_2026 PRW Meeting.pdf; 2. Appendix for Renaming Report to PRW 06_10_26.pdf

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Ferris and Mr. Miller,
On behalf of the Commemorative Renaming Committee, which has been working to provide the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department with a recommendation on the renaming of Chavez Park, we hereby submit our recommendation for discussion at the upcoming meeting on June 10, 2026.

As previously requested, we would greatly appreciate being placed early on the agenda and being given 15 minutes to present and discuss. Attached are the documents to be provided to the commissioners, the public, and for your review. There are a few items in the document that have links to open and view.

We look forward to hearing from you and plan to attend, along with some of our committee members. Please let us know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Respectfully,

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler
Santiago Casal
Natasha Beery

Attachments:

1. Renaming Report

2. Appendix includes:

- Rationale for 2nd and 3rd polled names
- Straw Poll Results
- Committee Members

Date: June 3, 2026

To: **Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission**

cc: Mayor Ishii, City Manager Paul Buddenhagen, PRW Director Scott Ferris

From: **Commemorative Committee Renaming Working Group**

Re: **Recommendation for Renaming the Waterfront Park**

Following the April 14, 2026, referral by the Mayor,¹ members of the Citywide Commemorative Committee² constituted a renaming working group in order to submit a recommendation to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission and City Manager for renaming the waterfront park. The committee of 21 members was drawn from many constituencies and stakeholders, including representatives from Latinos Unidos, the Multicultural Institute, Berkeley Unified School District, the Park Conservancy, the Off-Leash Association, the Tribute Site, the Ecology Center, UC Berkeley, the mayors and council aides, and community members (see Appendix).

Each individual and constituency brought a unique perspective on the park's history, current use, and potential. We conducted a substantial deliberative process that included reviewing the Mayor's referral, consulting city policy on naming and renaming, and developing criteria to review proposed names before polling representatives and discussing the poll results.

This committee process adapted the successful model developed and refined during recent BUSD school renaming efforts to carefully consider each name, including its educational implications and any caveats. We hope you will find this report illuminating for your discussion and deliberation, and believe you may find this process helpful for your future naming or renaming work.

We are pleased to have reached a strong consensus on a recommendation for a new name, one that we believe will endure and inspire our Berkeley community for generations to come: **¡Sí Se Puede! Park**. Please read the attached report for supporting details.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, BUSD School Board Director, Emerita

Santiago Casal, Founder of The Tribute Site & Former Chair of Latinos Unidos

Lupe Gallegos-Diaz, UC Berkeley Lecturer and Current Chair of Latinos Unidos

Natasha Beery, BUSD Superintendent's Designate & Former Director of Community Relations

This report includes the following components:

- 1) *Naming Background and Renaming Working Group Process*
- 2) *Naming Recommendation and Rationale for Sí Se Puede Park*
- 3) *Appendices: Rationales for 2nd & 3rd Choices (Esperanza and Campesino/a), Poll Results, Working Group Roster*

¹ [5/13/2026 PRW Agenda, page 12](#)

² formerly known as the Citywide Chavez-Huerta Commemorative Committee

Park Naming and Renaming Background

Thirty years ago, in 1996, the City of Berkeley renamed Waterfront Park to César Chávez Park in recognition of the Farmworker movement and of Chávez as one of its leaders.

In 2003, a citywide Chávez-Huerta Commemoration period was established as a collaboration between the City of Berkeley, the Berkeley Unified School District, and the Berkeley community. It begins on the Spring Equinox to coincide with the planting season and César Chávez's birth, and concludes on Dolores Huerta's birthday, April 10th.

In 2004, the Berkeley City Council approved a Chávez Tribute Site in César Chávez Park, designed as an ancient solar calendar to honor key virtues of the Farmworker movement: Hope, Determination, Courage, and Tolerance/Non-Violence.

The park, the Tribute Site, and the Commemoration period have played a crucial role in 23 years of city-wide celebrations and are a source of pride for the Latino community in Berkeley and beyond. With the shocking and painful news about Chávez that broke in March of this year, new and founding members of the Commemorative Committee stepped up to offer to work toward the park's renaming.

On April 14th, 2026, the Mayor requested the City Manager and the PRW Comisión to “engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley...to bring back to City Council recommendations for...name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.”

Renaming Working Group Timeline

The Working Group adapted a process used by the Berkeley Unified School District in the recent renaming of two of our elementary schools. Five meetings were held over the past two months to work intensively and thoughtfully together. Following is a snapshot of the process:

April 16: Reviewed the Mayor's directive, City policy on naming and renaming, and discussed potential criteria for selecting a new name. A poll on criteria was conducted April 21-26.

April 27: Reviewed results of the criteria poll, agreed to use eight key criteria to assess possible names, began soliciting names from committee members and their constituencies, and shared updates on district and city actions so far. Straw poll on names April 29-May 3.

May 4: Reviewed and discussed results of first poll, and prepared for May 13 update to PRW Comisión. Discussed the creation of rationales and learning opportunities for each name. Conducted a second straw poll, May 6-12, which included new names written in during the first poll. The writing group began working on drafts of top-name rationales, May 17-25.

May 26: Shared results of 2nd poll and initial drafts, found consensus on top name.

June 1: Reviewed report drafts and discussed presentation ahead of the June PRW meeting.

Committee Consensus Recommendation:

¡Sí Se Puede! Park

3

1. Summary Statement

Coined by civil rights activist Dolores Huerta for the United Farmworkers Movement in 1972, **¡Sí Se Puede!** has served as an empowering rallying cry for labor and immigrant rights as well as for political change, emphasizing collective action to overcome obstacles. What others saw as insurmountable obstacles, Dolores and others saw as the next hill to climb. Their example motivated and inspired others to follow their leadership. It has become an international phrase of the will to overcome.

The name not only meets all the committee's naming criteria, but you'll also find "**Sí Se Puede**" reflected in the Park's [Tribute Site and Solar Calendar](#) as one of the four directions linked to the virtue of Determination.

Dolores Huerta has indicated that [she does not want to have places named/renamed after her personally](#), but rather to honor the farmworker movement itself, and "**Sí Se Puede**" manages to honor both Huerta and the movement without being about one person.

Barack Obama used the saying "Yes We Can" during his presidential campaign, and [he acknowledged his debt to Huerta](#) for these words of inspiration. In fact, **Sí Se Puede** can serve as a rallying cry for many in our community to overcome the enormous setback posed by the shocking revelations about Chavez. "Yes, we can overcome this!" The name also lends an uplift to a beautiful park that once suffered from its status as a garbage dump and is now a community gathering place.

2. Results of the Committee Poll

In two rounds of polling, **¡Sí Se Puede! was consistently the #1 choice** of a majority of the committee. In the first poll, with 19 names under consideration and five additional write-ins, **66% ranked Sí Se Puede Park as the top choice, and 83% placed it in their top three names.** In the second poll, **Sí Se Puede Park rose to the top three for 93% of respondents and was the #1 choice for two-thirds.** The May 26th meeting confirmed that the committee as a whole would move forward with this consensus name.

³ Image created by 2nd graders at Sylvia Mendez elementary school for the Si Se Puede march

3. Opportunities for Learning and Celebration

¡Sí Se Puede! rings through the halls of our public schools during the [Commemorative Period](#). This name readily lends itself to many existing educational materials used District-wide. Each year, our students will be inspired to honor the farmworker movement leaders and organizers, particularly Dolores Huerta, and to imagine themselves as change-makers and champions for their community.

Sí Se Puede connects directly to the history of the Farmworker Movement and conveys a celebratory sense that “we can do it,” which is uplifting and engaging. Banners that say “Sí Se Puede” could be used and reused in many settings - schools, parades, gatherings of all kinds.

It is a beautiful expression of what Berkeley is all about. The phrase invites curiosity about its origin and use and is found in many places, including as one of the four directions at the Tribute Site, re: [determination](#). It is the *Sí Se Puede* attitude (It Can Be Done!).

4. Relevance to Committee Criteria

A. Celebrates **FARMWORKERS**:

Yes - it is the motto of the United Farm Workers of America

B. Honors the **HISTORY OF LABOR ORGANIZING**:

Yes - this chant has been used widely throughout labor and other organizing movements

C. Reflects **SPANISH-SPEAKING** and/or **CHICANO/LATINX HERITAGE**

Yes - this saying is in the Spanish language and connected to this heritage

D. Reflects our **SHARED VALUES**

Yes - this chant reflects the possibility of community and positive change

E. Promotes **UNITY**

Yes - this is meant to be chanted together with united voices

F. Is likely to **ENDURE**

Yes, there is not likely to be any controversy over this saying

G. Uplifts the **COMMUNITY** rather than just one individual

Yes - this reflects a community working together

H. Resonates with **BERKELEY** and/or the **BAY AREA**

Yes - this phrase is used at many Berkeley and Bay Area gatherings...and beyond!

5. Additional Considerations, Caveats, and Variations

- The phrase honors Dolores Huerta, who coined the phrase.
 - The phrase brings a smile and a shout to the lips of all who say it!
 - One person commented that it could be hard to pronounce, but we don't think that's a major concern. The phrase has been in the public sphere for 50 years and is widely used by English and Spanish speakers alike.
 - The word Sí ("yes") should be written with an accent. (Note that the name César Chávez should also have accents, but these are often omitted by many.)
 - The phrase is typically used with at least one exclamation point, or in the Spanish usage, ¡an inverted exclamation point followed by another exclamation point!
 - Multiple variations could be acceptable in actual use:
 - Sí Se Puede Park
 - Sí Se Puede! Park
 - ¡Sí Se Puede! Park
-

6. How is this name being used elsewhere?

- [Denver's César Chávez celebration will be called "Sí, se puede" this year](#)
 - [30th Annual **Sí Se Puede** Celebration | California State University Stanislaus](#)
 - [County replaces César Chávez Day name with "**Dolores Huerta - Sí Se Puede**"](#)
 - [Mesa County "**Sí Se Puede**" celebration](#)
 - [What will Cesar Chavez Park be renamed? Modesto narrows list to 3 options](#)
 - [**Sí Se Puede** Academy - El Centro de la Raza](#)
 - [**Sí Se Puede!** | Los Lobos Farmworker Fundraiser Album](#)
-

7. Google AI Response to "Is Sí Se Puede a Good Name for a Park?"

"**Sí Se Puede**" is an excellent name for a park because it honors civil rights and community resilience. Originating as a famous rallying cry in the farmworker labor movement co-founded by Dolores Huerta, the phrase embodies hope, collective struggle, and the possibility of positive social change. [1, 2, 3, 4]

Key Reasons the Name Works:

- *Empowerment and Hope*: It transforms a park into a symbol of encouragement, reminding visitors that challenges can be overcome through community effort and perseverance.
 - *Cultural Heritage*: The phrase is deeply tied to the Chicano and farmworker civil rights movements. Naming a public space "Sí se puede" serves as an enduring tribute to the hard work and dignity of laborers
 - *Inclusivity*: Rather than being dedicated to a single historical figure, the name emphasizes the community's strength. It invites everyone to feel welcome and capable of achieving great things.
 - *Universal Motivation*: In addition to its deep roots in Latinx and labor history, the phrase has become a universal, uplifting motto used across various campaigns for social and economic justice. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)]
-

8. Wikipedia: Sí Se Puede:

"Sí, se puede" (Spanish for "Yes, you can"), pronounced ['sí se 'pwe.ðe], is the motto of the United Farm Workers of America and has since been taken up by other activist groups. UFW co-founder Dolores Huerta created the phrase in 1972.^{[1][2][3]}

"Sí se puede" has long been a UFW guiding principle that has inspired the accomplishment of goals. The phrase has been widely adopted by other labor unions and civil rights organizations and has drawn widespread political and media attention as a rallying cry during the U.S. immigration reform protests.^{[4][5]}



APPENDIX:

Rationale for 2nd Choice:
Esperanza Park

Rationale for 3rd Choice:
Campesino Park

Poll Results

Commemorative Committee
Roster

Second Choice Name:
Esperanza Park

1. Summary Statement

Esperanza was the second choice among the many suggested names, but a distant second compared to “Sí Se Puede.”

While Esperanza is a positive feeling that conveys support and resonates with the Latino community, in the farmworker movement, it is not necessarily as strong a word as a movement that requires action and change. “Hope” was famously popularized by civil rights leader and politician Rev. Jesse Jackson during his 1988 presidential campaign as a rallying cry for equality, justice, and collective resilience in the face of systemic adversity.

Esperanza is a popular name for parks, particularly in revitalized or historically underserved areas. It transforms green spaces into symbols of community renewal, safety, and a brighter future. The park offers a majestic view of the west, San Francisco, which inspires hope, especially at [sunset](#). Esperanza is also one of the cardinal virtues of the Farmworker Movement (Hope, Determination, Courage, and Tolerance) reflected in the [Tribute Site and Solar Calendar](#) at the park.

2. Results from the Committee Poll

Esperanza came in as a fairly strong second choice in the Committee straw poll, with **44%** of respondents placing it in 2nd or 3rd place (although none had it as a first choice). In the second poll, support increased, with **57%** in 2nd or 3rd place, although it was again not a first choice for any respondent (71% had selected “Sí Se Puede” in first place, and 93% in top three)

3. Opportunities for Learning and Celebration

Esperanza is a verb, an action, a feeling. Learning materials would need to be created to explicitly connect Hope and Activism: Hope for change; Hope for farm workers to be valued; Hope for improved conditions, wages, and benefits; and Hope for stopping the deportation of farm workers.

Hope is directly connected with the EAST at the Tribute Site, and indirectly to the UFW rallying cry of *¡Viva La Causa!* The creation of the UFW gave highly exploited and abused farm workers Hope that they could overcome seemingly insurmountable odds. Common spring metaphors (the planting season) include birth, renewal, new beginnings, and HOPE.

4. Committee Criteria

A. Celebrates **FARMWORKERS**

? - The word itself, “Esperanza,” does not directly celebrate Farmworkers

B. Honors the **HISTORY OF LABOR ORGANIZING**

Yes - Esperanza, meaning “Hope,” is a part of the labor movement

C. Reflects **SPANISH-SPEAKING and/or CHICANO/LATINX HERITAGE**

Yes - The word is in Spanish

D. Reflects our **SHARED VALUES**

Yes - We all hope / Esperanza for things to be better.

E. Promotes **UNITY**

Yes - We all hold hope / Esperanza as a uniting factor

F. Is likely to **ENDURE**

Yes, the concept of Esperanza can endure and is uncontroversial

G. Uplifts the **COMMUNITY** rather than just one individual

Yes, Esperanza is a feeling, a desire, a communal wish.

H. Resonates with **BERKELEY** and/or the **BAY AREA**

? - Can be a word that resonates, but we would need to market it more!

5. Additional Considerations, Caveats and Variations

The connection to the Farmworker movement is indirect, or not obvious to many, and it will take further education and explanation to make that link. Some may find the word less strong than other options. However there is a direct connection to the Tribute Site at the park, with the cardinal direction of “Hope”.

Esperanza is pronounced in Spanish, with soft a; Esperanza does not rhyme with Anza, as in Lake Anza.

The word “la” serves as a definite article in Spanish, equivalent to “the” in English, but specifically used with the feminine singular noun, like Esperanza, so in Spanish this would be Parque de la Esperanza

6. How is this name being used elsewhere?

- [La Esperanza Park](#), Brownsville, Texas
 - [Esperanza Park in Cathedral City, California](#).
 - [Esperanza Hills Regional Park](#)
-

7. Google AI Response to “Is Esperanza a Good Name for a Park?”

"Esperanza Park" is a strong name because "esperanza" translates to "hope" in Spanish. It is frequently used by communities to symbolize renewal, resilience in the face of adversity, and the realization of a long-awaited vision for neighborhoods that have been historically overlooked. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)]

The name works well for a few key reasons:

- Symbol of Renewal: "Hope" embodies the transformation of neglected land, a former landfill, or an empty lot into a vibrant, safe community space for families and children.
 - Cultural Connection: In neighborhoods with strong Hispanic roots, using Spanish names directly connects the park's identity to the heritage of local residents.
 - Community Advocacy: Often, these parks result from years of grassroots campaigning. The name serves as a monument to the long-awaited vision and perseverance of the people who fought for the space.
 - Promotes Community Gathering: The meaning of "hope" translates directly to the park's purpose: a vibrant, free space that encourages families to celebrate, gather, and recreate together
 - Environmental Transformation: It honors the journey of healing or repurposing land. For example, a former landfill in L.A. County was transformed and renamed *Esperanza Hills Regional Park*.
-

8. Wikipedia: Esperanza

Esperanza is the Spanish word for hope, and may refer to [a long list of places, including mines, people, films, TV shows, music, and organizations such as Esperanza International, a non-profit organization that develops Dominican Republican communities through microfinancing, Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, a non-profit community-based arts & cultural organization that advocates for social justice, Esperanza Unida, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides job training and placement to unemployed minority workers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

Third Choice Name:
Campesino/a Park

1. Summary Statement

In the United Farm Worker (UFW) movement, *Campesino* signifies a profound relationship to the land, and often a familial way of life. It centers the park on recognition of farm workers who powered the movement. Organizers used the word to foster a collective identity among farmworkers who cultivate the land, often highlighting their struggles for dignity, fair wages, and land rights, rather than just their economic status. *El Teatro Campesino* (The Farmworkers' Theater) used this term to empower striking workers through performances that illustrated their struggle against exploitation. Rather than using "peasant," the UFW used *Campesino* to dignify the agricultural laborer. It celebrated a deep, spiritual, and communal relationship with the land.

Campesino may underscore awareness of farm workers who are currently facing mass deportations and threats, with workplace protections being rolled back and efforts to reduce their hard-won hourly benefits. Between 1/3 and 1/2 of all farmworkers in America reside in California, or roughly 500,000 - 800,000 farmworkers. Approximately 1/3 are women, and they range in age from their teens to their 60s. In addition, 400,000 children work in U.S. fields.

However, since "Campesino" is the masculine form of the word, the alternative "Campesina" to honor women is a viable alternative. Women farmworkers (Campesinas) are often systematically subjected to sexual slurs, groping, threats, beatings and even rape in the fields. In California, 80% of farmworker women (campesinas) state that they have experienced sexual harassment. Using "Campesina" brings attention to their struggle.

2. Results from the Committee Poll

In the first round of Committee polling, Campesino Park was the first choice of only two of 18 respondents; two listed it in second place and two in third, for a total of 6 respondents (33%) who included it in their top three choices.

By the second round, Campesino had dropped considerably in favor, with no committee members listing it as a first or second choice, and only 3 people listing it as a third choice. In fact, another option, "El Pueblo Unido" initially polled slightly higher than Campesino. However, we included Campesino in the top three due to its popularity with the Conservancy. In the Conservancy's final online poll in late April, when choices they offered to their readers were limited to just three options (*Campesino*, *Sí Se Puede*, and *Farmworker*), and their leadership declared in favor of Campesino when launching the poll, a plurality (55.6%) preferred *Campesino*, with *Sí Se Puede* in second place, and *Farmworker* in third place.

3. Opportunities for Learning and Celebration

For Campesina Park, per se, a new series of educational materials would need to be developed unless there are examples of existing curricula specifically related to this version of the name. Part of the benefit would be to move the many women leaders from the background to the foreground of the movement. This particular opportunity could be applied equally to the two other names, *Esperanza Park* and *¡Si Se Puede! Park*, and the distinct leadership and can-do spirit of women.

4. Committee Criteria

A. Celebrates **FARMWORKERS**

Yes - for example, *El Teatro Campesino* uses this term to empower striking workers through performances, illustrating their struggle against exploitation.

B. Honors the **HISTORY OF LABOR ORGANIZING**

Yes - It bridges Mexican and Filipino laborers in a shared struggle against poor working conditions, low pay, and exploitation by growers.

C. Reflects **SPANISH-SPEAKING** and/or **CHICANO/LATINX HERITAGE**

Yes - a Spanish word

D. Reflects our **SHARED VALUES**

? - it is the male version of the word in Spanish, and this usage could be more in question today. The word "Campesina" honors women.

E. Promotes **UNITY**

? - Perhaps people would unite around the intent of honoring farmworkers.

F. Is likely to **ENDURE**

Yes - as the referral says, "Farmworkers are the backbone of America."

G. Uplifts the **COMMUNITY** rather than just one individual

? - If the name "Campesino" is used, it refers to a group, but given the male version, the image that comes to mind often doesn't include women.

H. **Resonates** with **BERKELEY** and/or the **BAY AREA**

Yes - May resonate well if Berkeley chooses to make the case for featuring women farmworkers with "Campesina". Possibly connect it to the fact that parts of Berkeley were farmland. In a committee member's West Berkeley backyard (8th Street between Virginia and Cedar), an old plow is still there.

5. Additional Considerations, Caveats and Variations

Given that the word Campesino is the male version of the term, it would have to be written with a slash as “Campesino/a or Campesinx”. Alternatives such as Campesinx or Campesine are not universally accepted and are problematic for signage.

“Campesina” Park could serve as an affirmation/ celebration of women farm workers; however, many people might accidentally default to “Campesino,” since it may not resonate with those used to talking about the “Campesino” movement.

6. How is this name being used elsewhere?

- Campesino Park (Santa Ana, CA): This Orange County landmark reverted to its original name to reflect inclusivity for a broader coalition of farmworkers.
 - Camino Campesino (Hollister, CA): Following community outreach, the city renamed a prominent avenue to Camino Campesino to honor the enduring agricultural legacy of the region.
 - Campesinos Unidos: A prominent resource and community assistance hub based in El Centro, California, serving the migrant and agricultural working populations of the Imperial Valley.
-

7. Google AI Response to “Is Campesino a Good Name for a Park?”

"Campesino" (Spanish for "farmer" or "farmworker") is a powerful and fitting name for a park because it honors the essential, hardworking laborers who cultivate the land. It reflects cultural heritage, grounds the space in community history, and represents values of perseverance, dignity, and connection to the earth. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)]

Key Reasons the Name Works:

- Honors Laborers: It pays direct tribute to the agricultural workers whose sweat and labor form the backbone of local and regional economies, particularly in agricultural states like California.
- Cultural Representation: In areas with large Latino and Hispanic populations, it uses an accessible, recognizable term that speaks directly to the local community's heritage and history.
- Connection to the Land: "Campo" (from the Latin for field) signifies a relationship with nature. A name like Campesino reinforces the park's purpose as a green, natural space intended for the community to nurture, enjoy, and find peace

- Promotes Community Gathering: The meaning of "hope" translates directly to the park's purpose: a vibrant, free space that encourages families to celebrate, gather, and recreate together
 - Environmental Transformation: It honors the journey of healing or repurposing land. For example, a former landfill in L.A. County was transformed and renamed *Esperanza Hills Regional Park*.
-

8. Wikipedia: Campesino

Campesino means 'farmer' or 'peasant' in Spanish and may refer to:

- a translation of the word "peasant", referring to a Latin American farmer
 - Los Campesinos!, an indie pop band from Cardiff, Wales
 - Teatro Campesino, a theater group founded by the United Farm Workers
 - Valentín González, El Campesino, a military leader during the Spanish Civil War
 - Via Campesina, the collaborating body for an international peasant movement
 - *Bloque Obrero y Campesino*, the Workers and Peasants' Bloc in 1930s Barcelona
 - *Confederación Revolucionaria de Obreros y Campesinos*, Mexico
 - *Confederación Sindical Única de Trabajadores Campesinos de Bolivia*, Unique Confederation of Rural Laborers of Bolivia
-

Straw Poll Results

Each member was asked to rank their top three names

In the first round, additional write-in votes were also solicited

Any park name that received a first, second or third place vote was included in the next round.

POLL NAMES ROUND ONE		POLL NAMES ROUND TWO
¡Sí Se Puede! Park		¡Sí Se Puede! Park
Esperanza Park		Esperanza Park
Campesino Park		Campesino Park
<i>Farmworker Park</i>		<i>El Pueblo Unido Park</i>
<i>El Pueblo Unido Park</i>		<i>Parque (or Jardín) de los Obreros</i>
<i>Movimiento Park</i>		<i>Farmworker Park</i>
<i>Huelga Park</i>		<i>Farmworker Solidarity Park</i>
<i>¡Viva La Causa! Park</i>		<i>Bahia Del Sol (Dorado) Park</i>
<i>¡Hasta La Victoria! Park</i>		
<i>¡Viva La Huelga! Park</i>		IN POLL, NO VOTES RECEIVED
<i>La Gente Unida Park</i>		<i>Movimiento Park</i>
<i>North Waterfront Park</i>		<i>Huelga Park</i>
		<i>¡Viva La Causa! Park</i>
NEW SUGGESTIONS		<i>¡Hasta La Victoria! Park</i>
<i>Parque (or Jardín) de los Obreros</i>		<i>¡Viva La Huelga! Park</i>
<i>Bahia Del Sol (Dorado)</i>		<i>La Gente Unida Park</i>
<i>Farmworker Solidarity</i>		<i>North Waterfront Park</i>
<i>Parque (or Jardín) de los Olvidados</i>		
<i>Parque (or Jardín) de los Braceros</i>		
IN POLL, NO VOTES RECEIVED		
<i>Águila Negra Park</i>		
<i>Burrowing Owl Park</i>		
<i>Comunidad Park</i>		
<i>Hope Park</i>		
<i>Jardín de los Pájaros Park</i>		
<i>Oceanview Park</i>		
<i>Park del Movimiento</i>		

Commemorative Committee Membership and Constituencies

	Name	Title, Representative
1	Cydney Chilimidos	Mayor Adena Ishii Representative*
2	Beth Gerstein for Rashi Kesarwani	City Council District 1
3	Ruben Hernandez for Terry Taplin	City Council District 2
4	Senator Jesse Arreguin	State Senator
5	Ariana Casanova	State Senator Arreguin, Representative*
6	Ana Vasudeo	BUSD Board Director
7	Natasha Beery	BUSD Superintendent Designate
8	Beatriz Leyva-Cutler	BUSD Board Emerita, Tribute Site Education Director
9	Ruben Lizardo	UCB Representative
10	Sheila Jordan	Alameda County Board of Education, Emeritus
11	Lisette Flores	Peralta College
12	Lupe Gallegos-Diaz	Latinos Unidos Representative
13	Daniela Gonzalez Mirna Cervantes	Multicultural Institute
14	Martin Nicolaus	Park Conservancy
15	Santiago Casal	Founder/Director, Tribute Site
16	Carlos Hill	Coordinator of Site Stewards
17	Vivian White	Seasonal Gathering Coordinator
18	Jeff Malmuth	Off-Leash-Area (OLA)
19	Martin Borque	Ecology Center
20	Alexis Adorador	Community Member
21	Todd Kerr	Berkeley Times
		*Advising, non-voting

Commemorative Renaming Committee

	Name	Title/Representative
1	Cydney Chillimidos	Mayor Adena Ishii Representative
2	Beth Gerstein for Rashi Kesarwani	City Council District 1
3	Ruben Hernandez for Terry Taplin	City Council District 2
4	Ana Vasudeo	BUSD Board Director
5	Natasha Beery	BUSD Superintendent Appointee
6	Ariana Casanova	State Senator Arreguin, Representative
7	Senator Jesse Arreguin	State Senator
8	Martin Borque	Ecology Center
9	Ruben Lizardo	UCB Representative
10	Mirna Cervantes Daniela Gonzalez	Multicultural Institute
11	Alexis Adorador	Community Member
12	Beatriz Leyva-Cutler	Tribute Site Education Director
13	Carlos Hill	Coordinator of Site Stewards
14	Lupe Gallegos-Diaz	Latinos Unidos Representative
15	Martin Nicolaus	Park Conservancy
16	Sheila Jordan	Alameda County Board of Education, Emeritus
17	Santiago Casal	Founder/Director, Tribute Site
18	Todd Kerr	Berkeley Times
19	Vivian White	Seasonal Gathering Coordinator
20	Lisette Flores	Peralta College
21	Jeff M	Off Leash Area (OLA) Community

April 16, 2026
 1920 7th Street, Berkeley
 5-6:30 PM

Commemorative Renaming Committee

	Name	Title/Representative
1	Cydney Chillimidos	Mayor Adena Ishii Representative
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Commemorative Renaming Committee

Individual Comments from Straw Polls on Names

May 2026

Sí Se Puede Park

- Sí Se Puede Park captures the essence of the United Farm Worker Movement. "Sí se puede" is a Spanish phrase meaning "Yes, it can be done." Coined by civil rights activist Dolores Huerta, it serves as an empowering rallying cry for labor and immigrant rights and for political change, emphasizing collective action to overcome obstacles. It also gives an uplift to what has become a beautiful park that once suffered from its "former garbage dump status." It is also a beautiful expression of what Berkeley is all about. And will ring through the halls of schools during the CityWide Commemorative Period each year, as our students march to honor the farm worker movement leaders and organizers, particularly Dolores Huerta.
- While I could live with Esperanza Park and maybe Campesina Park (re: honoring the women of the movement), I do not think that they give the park the dramatic boost and direct link to the farmworker movement that the ¡Sí Se Puede! Park name does. It has an elaborate history, is linked directly to Dolores Huerta, is a marching chant known to all, is linked directly to the Tribute Site and one of the four directions (South) and the virtue of Determination, and lends itself easily to much of the existing educational materials that we have used during the Citywide Commemorative Period, and at the Tribute Site. In fact, it can serve as a rallying cry for us to overcome the enormous setback posed by the SHOCKING Chavez revelations. "Yes, we can overcome this!" It also represents an added, consistent boost to a Park that has had to overcome its "former dump" reputation. AND it meets all the park naming criteria.
- It resonates with Berkeley's activist history and with the farmworker movement. "Sí Se Puede" was used to defy and resist authorities who believed farmworkers could not win against growers who, for generations, grew wealth on the backs of farmworkers. "Sí "Se Puede" is used to unite people - Yes We Can! Sí Se Puede Park will give Berkeley a rallying cry for unity, hope, and resilience in the face of this era of hate, war, and divisiveness.
- Si Se Puede connects directly to the Farmworker Movement and honors Dolores Huerta without naming her. It captures the spirit of Berkeley, of positive change, and was adopted by Obama (Yes We Can). We do have to deal with how it is spelled (with an accent on Sí) and with exclamation points, but it is so positive and unifying.
- Sí Se Puede is the iconic saying coined by Dolores Huerta. It is an uplifting, positive message that says that any obstacles can be overcome. The farm workers movement overcame incredible odds to form the first union by and for farm workers. This saying is a testament to the movement's grit, sacrifice, and determination.

- Si se puede is a chant that transcends time. I met Dolores last year, and she informed our group that she was the one who coined this chant, even though the credit was always given to Cesar. This chant has the opportunity to mean so much more to so many more people.
 - Si Se Puede is a slogan associated with a farmworkers' movement, and yet its literal translation is very polite. All in all, it calls for a thoughtful reconsideration of history and suggests a nuanced, positive attitude.
 - "Si se puede" ... a thought which opens endless possibilities for el Pueblo Unido to achieve its objectives despite all obstacles. Dolores contribution to the labor movement & uplifting humanity itself are encapsulated in that idea
 - It's a slogan associated with Dolores Huerta and the farmworkers' movement, and it has a positive "can do" tone that embodies the value of resilience. There's a history lesson or two in this name and a value as well. I prefer a name in Spanish.
 - It meets most of the criteria for naming and is a well-known saying from the farm worker movement. It reflects an enduring positive message.
 - Concept reflecting possibilities in our struggles as a Pueblo for human dignity, respect, and compassion to emerge triumphant via determination (*esfuerzo*)
 - Strong association with the farmworker movement. Can be applied universally by all different kinds of communities. It's positive and inspiring.
 - It aligns with the spirit of Berkeley's activism for social justice and its status as a Sanctuary City. It is also the rallying cry for justice, human rights, and unity.
 - Another important chant which lifts up the unity of the farmworkers in their fight for justice.
 - The rallying cry of the farmworkers, championed by Dolores Huerta, seems fitting.
 - Teaches the legacy of determination from the farmworkers movement
 - I really like the positiveness of Si Se Puede and people recognize the saying.
 - Encourages optimism in our various struggles.
 - Acknowledges that we can make a change.
 - Promotes collective agency
 - Encompasses all the criteria
 - empowerment
 - It's a call to action
-

Esperanza Park

- Esperanza is one of the values associated with the Farmworkers movement, and it is associated with a forward-looking perspective, which this westward-facing park enjoys.
 - I feel that “Hope” is an invisible energy in the heart chakra. When the heart opens hope floods into the sanctuary of our being. It is the light of our Creator, Dios, always within us. Hope and Love are brother and sister.
 - Esperanza (translation>>hope) is a value associated with the farmworkers' movement, and it's a value that is universal.
 - Esperanza: It's important not to lose hope with everything occurring, which speaks to a collective dream
 - “Esperanza” is the root of our faith in seeking truth and justice. Hope becomes action and is the invisible force that fuels lasting victories through time
 - Esperanza - really speaks to the Hope for the future and being in a place where we can find joy.
 - Hope is something we always need, and it's a cardinal direction of the Tribute Site
 - It embeds a value of hope
 - Who doesn't need hope?
-

Campesino Park

- This centers the park and the recognition of the farm workers who powered the movement. This is especially important at a time when farm workers are facing mass deportations and threats by the administration, and workplace protections are being rolled back.
- Campesino Park is problematic because of the masculine gender.
- Honors the people who stood to lose the most in the movement.
- Lifting up the workers who make sacrifices every day
- Really acknowledges the workers in the fields.
- A way to honor our farmworkers.
- Means “Farmworker”

No# 1 Choice





Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos!

Sí Se Puede Park

Berkeley, CA

I

**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR ADENA ISHII**

(Berkeley, CA) – On Wednesday, March 18, 2026, Berkeley Mayor Adena Ishii issued the following statement in response to recent reporting detailing allegations of abuse of women and girls by the late

labor leader César Chávez*: *"As a city that has long honored the labor movement and its leaders, including through the naming of our treasured waterfront park, the information now coming to light about César Chávez is deeply disturbing and heartbreaking. Like much of the world, we are only just learning of these allegations.*

My office is in conversation with Latinx community leaders, and we will keep residents informed as we consider how to move forward while continuing to honor the importance of the farm worker labor movement in our nation's history. Any action by the City Council will be guided by thoughtful consideration and meaningful input from our community.

Berkeley stands with the survivors who bravely came forward. We honor their courage in sharing the traumatic experiences they have carried for decades.



Miller, Roger

From: lupeatcal@gmail.com on behalf of LatinosUnidos de Berkeley
<latinosunidosdberk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2026 7:59 PM
To: Berkeley Mayor's Office; Sinai, Julie; All Council; Miller, Roger; Ferris, Scott;
jmann@berkeleyca.gov
Cc: LatinosUnidos de Berkeley; Beatriz Leyva-Cutler
Subject: Letter of Support

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Ishii and Berkeley City Council members:

On behalf of the Latinos Unidos de Berkeley (LUdB)- a grassroots community group - we are in full support of the relocation of the Korean War monument that is currently located at the Veterans Memorial Building on center street to the James Kenny Park in west Berkeley. This is the right thing to do as these five young men were from west Berkeley.

Latinos Unidos de Berkeley hopes that the city and city council members will find the funds to make this move as a sign of respect to these veteran's and their families.

-Latinos Unidos de Berkeley

To: Mayor Ishii, Berkeley City Council, and Senior Aide Julie Sinai,
CC: Scott Ferris, Director of Parks and Recreation
Roger Miller, Staff
Waterfront Commission, c/o John Mann, Waterfront Manager

Today, on Memorial Day, we commemorate U.S. military personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the Armed Forces. Specifically, here in Berkeley, we have a monument located in front of the Veterans Building that honors five young West Berkeley soldiers who gave their lives in service to our country. So it is fitting that we reach out to you today,

We are writing to formally request that funding be included in the City of Berkeley's 2027-2028 budget for the relocation of this Korean War monument. Several city staff members have come up with different estimates as to the cost of relocation.

Over the years, this memorial has been neglected, including the placement of portable toilets right in front of the site. Following meetings in January between our community representatives, City officials, and Councilmember Tregub, the portable toilets were moved to the street and sidewalk in front of the Veterans Building.

La Colectiva Latina de Berkeley, which created the Berkeley Historical Society and Museum exhibit on the history of Latinos in Berkeley, discussed this issue with Mayor Ishii during her visit to the exhibit. We agreed that relocating the monument to James Kenney Park would be the most appropriate and respectful long-term solution. This park is part of the community these young men

called home, and it would provide a more dignified setting to preserve and honor their memory. We intend to work with all stakeholders to determine the most suitable location within the park.

The West Berkeley community originally funded both the monument's creation and its placement in front of the Mobilized Women of Berkeley center at University Avenue and 10th Street. When that center closed, the community again raised funds to relocate the monument to the Veterans Building. We now respectfully ask the City to provide the financial and logistical support necessary for a permanent relocation.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to your support for this issue, which is of deep importance to the Latino community.

Sincerely,

Representatives from the Five Families:

Larry Pozos

David Martínez

Sam Martínez

Yolanda Fernández

Christina Fernández Franco

Representatives of La Colectiva Latina de Berkeley:

Clementina Durón

Harvey Smith

Larry Reyna Sr.

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler

--

Latinos Unidos de Berkeley

latinosunidosdberk@gmail.com

Like us on [Facebook](#)

Join our [Facebook Group](#)

The mission of Latinos Unidos de Berkeley is to improve the quality of life of Latinos who live and work in the City of Berkeley by addressing and advocating for emerging issues.

Miller, Roger

From: Alexis Adorador <alexisadorador@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 11:10 AM
To: Miller, Roger
Subject: Renaming of Cesar Chavez Park

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Miller,

I am writing to voice my support for the recommendations being made by the committee to rename Cesar Chavez Park. As a member of that committee, I can attest to the thorough and inclusive process that was lead by Beatriz Leyva Cutler, Santiago Casal and others.

It is my hope that the Commission will recognize the hard work and many hours that have been put into this recommendation so that it can move forward for approval by the city council.

Best wishes,

Alexis Adorador MFT

Community member

1737 Blake st. Berkeley

Sent from my iPhone

Miller, Roger

From: Martin Nicolaus (via Google Docs) <manicolaus@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 4:21 PM
To: Miller, Roger
Cc: Miller, Roger; Miller, Roger
Subject: Park Name Poll backs "Campesino Park"
Attachments: Park Name Poll backs "Campesino Park".pdf

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Martin Nicolaus attached a document

Martin Nicolaus (manicolaus@gmail.com) has attached the following document:
[Learn more](#)

Dear Roger,

I would appreciate it if this could be included in the agenda for the June 10 meeting of the Commission.

Thank you.

Martin Nicolaus

 Park Name Poll backs "Campesino Park"

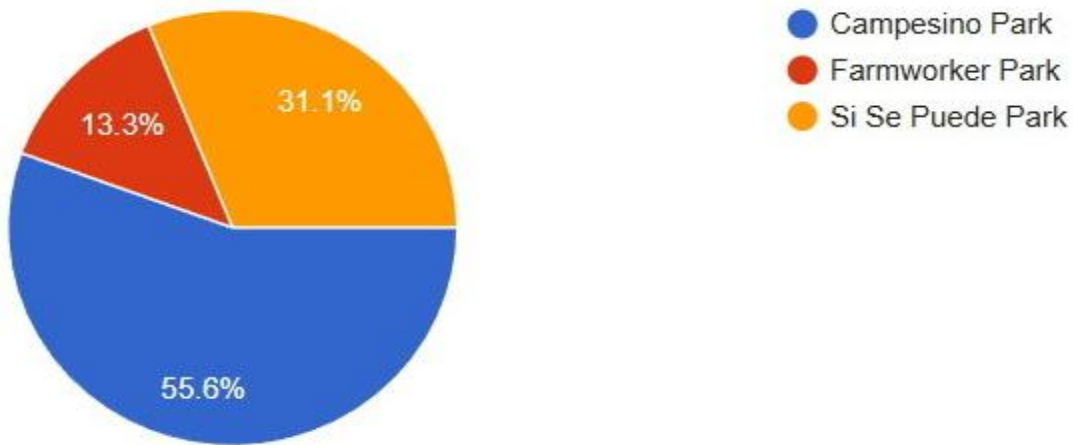
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Park Name Poll backs “Campesino Park”



The fourth edition of the Park Name Poll published [Apr 17](#) (and still live) is showing a strong majority for “Campesino Park” as the new name.

This is the first poll showing a clear majority for a new name. The initial poll, published here [March 19](#), showed an exactly 50 percent vote in favor of “Dolores Huerta Park.” ([March 20](#)). A day later, that slipped to 40 percent. ([March 21](#)).

Then the news hit that Dolores Huerta did not want her name put on public property. A second poll, posted [Mar 26](#), dropped the Dolores Huerta option. The results, published [Mar 31](#), were a fractured mess. No name had as much as 20 percent of the vote. (The leading name was “Burrowing Owl Park” with 19.5 percent.) The lack of consensus, the wide scattering of opinions, offered no guidance whatever to the ultimate deciders, the members of City Council.

Then came a breakthrough. On April 14, City Council met and unanimously approved a statement by Mayor Adena Ishii, stating clearly that the new name “will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.”

Immediately, just about the whole slate of options in the earlier polls was wiped clean. There are only three names, so far, that fit the bill that the Mayor has spelled out. It’s Campesino Park, Sí Se Puede Park. or Farmworker Park.

Of these three, Campesino Park is the strong favorite in the current poll, with a 55 percent majority. No other name, not even “Dolores Huerta” when that was an option, captured as high a response.

This is of course not an official vote. There is a process starting up involving the Commemorative Committee and then going to the Parks Commission which must hold a public hearing and then report to the City Manager who will take it to City Council. This will take long dreary months during which the park has no name and the C***** Park Conservancy has no name either but is compelled to keep using the chavezpark.org website address.

-- chavezpark.org Apr 22 2026

Portland City Council advances proposal to rename Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard to Campesinos Boulevard

A five-person committee unanimously approved a proposal to fast-track the renaming process, potentially bypassing the city's requirements for resident approval.

Author: Evan Watson

Published: 4:57 PM PDT May 26, 2026

Updated: 10:34 AM PDT May 27, 2026

PORTLAND, Oregon — A Portland City Council committee unanimously advanced a proposal Tuesday to [rename Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard to Campesinos Boulevard](#), following a New York Times investigation alleging the late labor leader [sexually abused women and girls for decades](#).

The proposal, introduced by Councilor Loretta Smith, would bypass city code that requires the support of 2,500 Portlanders or 75% of residents living on a street before a name change can occur.

The word "campesinos" is a Spanish term for farmworkers, and supporters say the name would honor the Latino community and their fight for labor rights. The full city council will now hold a hearing on the measure....

Marta Guembes, co-chair of Por La Causa Committee, made an emotional appeal at the council meeting in support of the Campesinos name.

"Long after we are gone people will still drive this boulevard, what story will each name tell? We are asking for the name to reflect our community's strength, honesty, and inclusion. Please vote for Campesinos Boulevard, and que vivan los campesinos," she said....

Reyna Lopez, executive director of PCUN, said in a statement that she supports the Campesinos name change as a tribute to migrant farmworkers.

"Campesinos Boulevard honors the collective struggle of farmworkers while making clear that accountability and justice must exist inside our movements too," Lopez said. "We do not move forward by protecting legacies at all costs. We move forward by telling the truth and continuing the fight for dignity for all workers."

Date: July 1, 2026

Re: Letter of Support

We, the members of the Citywide Commemorative Committee, are pleased to write in support of the CONSENSUS vote of the Committee for renaming the waterfront park formerly known as Cesar Chavez Park to a new, uplifting name **!Sí Se Puede! Park**.

Since the heart-breaking New York Times revelations about Cesar Chavez (March 18, 2026) we, long-standing community members, are grateful for the immediate action, proposed by Councilmember Kesarwani, to remove the name, and for the recommendation made on April 14, 2026, by Mayor Ishii and Council members Lunaparra, Humbert and O'Keefe, in which direction was provided to the City Manager and the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission and Director, "to engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latino Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley may move forward with a name change that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America."

We proudly report that our 19-member Commemorative Committee, representing multiple stakeholders and constituencies across Berkeley, met several times since the April 14th Consent Calendar item, and also convened with constituencies and conducted a deliberate process that included reviewing the Mayor's referral, the City's policy on naming and renaming, and developing criteria to test proposed names before polling representatives and discussing the poll and comments of committee members. In doing so, we adapted the successful renaming process utilized to rename schools in BUSD as a model. We highly recommend that the City adopt this model for the future naming and renaming of community places, parks, and buildings. We have attached a copy of the report submitted to the PRW Commission, which further details our process and rationale.

We, the Citywide Commemorative Committee, are pleased to present to the Mayor and the Berkeley City Council a strong consensus that we believe will endure and inspire our Berkeley community for generations to come: **¡Sí Se Puede! Park**.

Respectfully submitted,

- **Santiago Casal**, Founder of the Tribute Site & Co-Founder/Former Chair of Latinos Unidos
- **Beatriz Leyva-Cutler**, BUSD School Board Director, Emerita
- **Natasha Beery**, BUSD Superintendent's Designate, Former Dir. of Community Relations
- **Matt Meyer**, Berkeley Federation of Teachers
- **Alexis Adorador** MFT- Community Member
- **Larry Reyna Sr**, Berkeley Latino Historical Exhibit Committee, La Colectiva Latina de Berkeley committee, renaming of Cesar Chavez Park committee, relocating of the Korean War West Berkeley Chicano veterans memorial committee.
- **Lupe Gallegos-Diaz**, Chair, Latinos Unidos de Berkeley
- **Jeff Malmuth**, Off-Leash Area Group
- **Martin Bourque**, Ecology Center
- **Ana Vasudeo**, BUSD School Board Director
- **Vivian White**, Solar calendar steward and astronomer
- **Mirna Cervantes**, Multicultural Institute, Executive Director
- **Daniela Gonzalez**, Multicultural Institute, Engagement Director