



Rashi Kesarwani
Councilmember, District 1

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 15, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani (Author)

SUBJECT: Naming the Harrison Street Skate Park in Honor of Terrance McCrary

RECOMMENDATION

Referral to the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission to officially name the Harrison Street Skate Park in honor of Terrance McCrary, Jr., former skateboard counselor in training with our Recreation Division's Skate Camp and Berkeley resident killed by gun violence.

BACKGROUND

Terrance McCrary Jr., also known as T-Mack, was born on September 15, 1993. By all accounts he was a vibrant, big hearted person who had a passion for skateboarding and art.¹ He graduated from Berkeley public schools, attended Berkeley City College and worked at 510 Skateboarding skate shop on Telegraph avenue as a way to fuel his interests. Terrance also worked at the Harrison Skate Park as a counselor in training with the city's recreation division and was a mentor to younger kids who shared his love for skating. On August 14, 2016 at the age of 22, Terrance was killed while attending a party in Uptown Oakland. Two other attendees got into a fight; one of them pulled a gun on the other shooting him dead and taking Terrance's life as well. Terrance continues to live in the hearts of those whose lives he touched and have a presence within the skateboarding community.

Every year the McCrary family, in conjunction with the City of Berkeley's Recreation Division, hosts an annual T-Mack Skate Jam with free food, music and prizes in honor of Terrance, celebrating his life, memory, and passion for skateboarding. It is a moment to celebrate life and bring the skateboarding community together while also recognizing the pain and devastation of gun violence.

¹ Berkeleyside Obituary written by friend Delency Parham, August 15, 2016: <https://www.berkeleyside.org/2016/08/15/in-loving-memory-of-terrence-mccrary-1993-2016>. See also

While currently there is a sign at the Harrison Skate Park honoring Terrance's life and contributions to the skateboarding community at the park, it is officially known as the Harrison Skate Park. Officially naming the skate park after Terrance would be a way to further honor his life and tie the annual T-Mack Skate Jam celebrations permanently to this park.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Built in the early 2000s, Harrison Skate Park, located at 711 Harrison Street, is an 18,000 square foot park designed for skateboarders of all levels. It contains a large oval bowl, a fun box, and dedicated areas for beginners. The City of Berkeley's Recreation Division hosts summer camps and events for youth at all skill levels. Operating hours are 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There is no significant environmental impact of naming the skate park after Terrance McCrary, Jr.

FISCAL IMPACT

Officially naming the skate park after Terrance would require new signage in multiple locations. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Director Scott Ferris estimated the costs at less than \$5,000.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani, 510-981-7110

Attachments:

Flyer for 2023 T-Mack Skate Jam



Recreation Division Presents



T-MACK SKATE JAM

Saturday, September 16th, 2023

Berkeley Skate Park, 711 Harrison St

11:30 - 3:00PM



Terrence
McCrary
Forever

FREE EVENT FOR ALL

Free Food / Music / Good Vibes

This is an annual event celebrating the life and memory of Terrence McCrary Jr. Terrence grew up riding the Berkeley Skate Park and was a Counselor-in-Training for the Recreation Division's Skate Camp in 2012.

This event will feature a skate jam, raffle prize giveaways, art creations, live music (DJ and music artist) and refreshments.

Sponsored By 510 Skateboarding, Skate XP, Deluxe Distribution

Refreshments will be donated by the McCrary family



