

Meeting Date (?) 10/25/2016

Subject Matter* (?) SH47-Riverside Parkway renaming
This must match rolling agenda entry

Department of Origin* DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Submitted By* Martin Zimmermann

Type of Meeting* BCD Special Regular

Classification* Public Hearing Consent Statutory Regular

Ordinance* None First Read Second Read First & Only Read

Strategic Initiative* Public Safety Service
 Economic Development Infrastructure
 Quality of Life

Agenda Item Description* Consideration of a resolution supporting designation of Texas State Highway 47 within the City limits of Bryan as "Riverside Parkway", to perpetuate the memory of the western Brazos County community of Riverside.

Summary Statement* On July 12, 2016, the Bryan City Council voted to direct City staff to pursue the assigning of the name "Riverside Parkway" to Texas State Highway 47 (SH 47) in honor of the former western Brazos County community of Riverside. The approval of assigning a name to a State roadway lies with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The proposal originated with the Brazos County Historical Commission in the Fall of 2015.

The Riverside community existed from the late 19th century until 1942 when the federal government purchased nearly 2,000 acres of land, including all of the Riverside Community, to establish the Bryan Army Airfield. Having been in use as a military facility between 1943 and 1961, ownership was transferred to Texas A&M University in 1962. For a number of years, the property was known as the Riverside Campus. In September 2015, the university announced a \$150 million campus renovation planned to transform the property under a new name, RELDIS Campus.

SH 47 is approximately 6.5 miles in length with all but 1.1 miles of that distance lying within the current city limits of Bryan. To facilitate an efficient transition to the new name and to ensure the road bears the same name along its entire length, the City staff is working to coordinate the naming process with TxDOT and the City of College Station. A "sister resolution" is tentatively scheduled for consideration by the College Station City Council during its regular meeting on October 27, 2016.

All property owners whose property abuts SH 47 were formally notified by letter, explaining the proposal and requesting feedback. As of the writing of the Council Action Form, no responses have been received.

Staff Analysis & Recommendation* Staff concurs that assigning the name "Riverside Parkway" to SH 47 is appropriate and recommends approval of the draft resolution.

- The Bryan City Council has declared that as a matter of public policy the preservation, protection, enhancement, and perpetuation of historic and cultural resources of importance and significance are necessary to promote the economic, cultural, educational, and general welfare of the public.
- Staff contends designating SH 47 as Riverside Parkway will serve to preserve and protect the memory of an all but forgotten rural Brazos County community, Riverside.
- Staff finds designating SH 47 as Riverside Parkway will mark the western gateway corridor to both Bryan and College Station, thus enhancing both communities' attractiveness to residents and visitors.
- Adding Riverside Parkway to the name will not actually be a renaming, but an overlaying name, as the State highway designation will remain.

Options*

(In Suggested Order of Staff Preference)

1. approve the draft resolution;
2. approve the draft resolution with modifications, which may require consideration at a future City Council meeting; or
3. reject the draft resolution and provide direction to staff.

Funding Source*

At this time, all costs associated with the name change are unquantified. However, mailing notifications of the name change and new signage may result in some costs, which will be absorbed into city department operational budgets.

Attachments

ATTACHMENTS CAF- Naming Hwy 47 Riverside Parkway.docx

874.84KB

Please detail attachments and note attachments available for viewing in City Secretary's Office:

1. excerpt from Bryan City Council regular meeting minutes of July 12, 2016;
2. letter to owners of property that adjoins SH 47; and
3. draft resolution.

Dept. Head Signature



Kevin Russell

Deputy City Manager Signature



[Handwritten Signature]

City Manager Signature



Hugh R. Walker

City Attorney Signature



Janis K. Hampton