



To: Mayor Selby and Olympia City Council  
Fm: Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)  
Re: Park Naming Recommendation

Mayor Selby and Council Members,

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee is pleased to inform you that, our committee voted unanimously and enthusiastically to recommend **Rebecca Howard Park** as the official name for the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue park parcel.

On October 17, 2021, PRAC received a presentation on the park, on Rebecca Howard and on the goals and objectives of this park from Park Director Paul Simmons and one of the project stakeholders, Shawna Hawk, who first introduced the idea of naming the park after one of Olympia's accomplished African-American residents, Rebecca Howard. Following the meeting, PRAC held a Public Hearing during which we heard comments in full support not only of the proposed name of the park but also the purpose and goals of this park to bring positive change to our community and to honor the history of our Black community members, past and present.

Members of our committee look forward to the development of this park as place of peace and healing. We are pleased that the Park staff is prioritizing the development of this park in the draft 2022-2028 *Parks, Arts & Recreation Plan* and that the stakeholders' group is already collaborating on conceptual designs emerging through their shared vision.

Thank you for considering our recommendation.

Gratefully,

Maria Ruth, Chair  
Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)