

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager  
DATE: February 13, 2019

SUBJECT: **DISCUSSION REGARDING NAMING OF NORTH CONVENTION CENTER PARK AS COLLINS CANAL PARK.**

### RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends referral of the naming of North Convention Center Park as Collins Canal Park to Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee.

### ANALYSIS

As the renovation of the Miami Beach Convention Center nears completion, there is an opportunity to name the neighboring North Convention Center Park to reflect the spirit the new convention center.

**Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) and City staff** collaborated on the following suggested names for the parks:

#### Northern Park:

1. Clubhouse Park
2. Great Ficus Park
3. North Convention Center Park

Early in 2018, the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee (NCAC) recommended the names be reviewed by the Women's Committee, who later suggested that it be heard by the Parks & Recreational Facilities Advisory Board (PRFAB), and suggested that staff develop additional recommendations.

In October 2018, the **Convention Center Advisory Board (CCAB)** motioned that West 8 (landscape architects) be asked to identify the featured plants being installed in the Miami Beach Convention parks and further, that the Parks and Recreation Board consider the names of these plants as potential names for the North Park renaming. – Mahogany trees and Spidering Fig tree.

On Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, the **Parks and Recreational Facilities Advisory Board** took

a tour of the parks and recommends the following names:

North Park

- Convention Center Waterway Park
  - Also suggested the City get input from the immediate neighborhood and the AiPP Board – however, the review of parks names is not within the charge of AiPP

During the December 14, 2018 NCAC meeting, staff was asked to research additional names and provide a presentation on potential names.

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Staff reached out to West 8, the park designers who recommended the following options for the North Convention Center Park.

North Convention Center Park

ArtScape Park  
Canal Park For The Arts  
Collins Canal Park  
Canopy Park  
Mahogany Park

Staff worked with the City Attorney's office to ensure the naming of the parks is consistent with City Code including the naming of an exterior portion of a public facility or a park (as opposed to the naming of interior portions/rooms in a facility, or interior portions of a park). Under City Code there is a referendum requirement unless the facility or park is to be "named or renamed solely for the name of the City, the geographic area or physical location of the facility and/or the street or portion of the street where the facility is located, the function of the facility, or the current name of the facility."

At the January 28, 2019 NCAC meeting, the committee recommended Carl Fisher Park.

Subsequent to the January 28, 2019 NCAC meeting, the City Attorney's Office advised the Administration that the name *Carl Fisher Park* will require a referendum.

The City Code requires that a proposed name be submitted in writing to the NCAC, and for the NCAC to consider, review and transmit its recommendation to the City Commission.

During the February 6, 2019 NCAC meeting, the committee revisited the naming of the North Convention Center Park as *Carl Fisher Park*, knowing the naming would require a referendum. Thereafter, NCAC discussed the previous provided names and recommended *Collins Canal Park* as the name for the North Convention Center Park, after legal confirmed the name recommendation would not require a referendum.

The Collins Canal runs along the side of the North Convention Center Park and was constructed by John Collins in 1912. He built it to transport avocados and mangos from his farm to barges and ships in Biscayne Bay. Today, Collins Canal is a beautiful waterway that is used mainly for recreational purposes.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Administration is seeking direction on the naming of the North Convention Center Park as Collins Canal Park. Should the Commission support the naming of the North Convention Center Park as Collins Canal Park, the Administration recommends that the name, Collins Canal Park be referred to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee for review, consideration and recommendation.

## **Legislative Tracking**

Tourism and Culture