



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#25-0314

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: May 6, 2025

TITLE: Resolution Approving the Naming of a New City Park, Located at 501 SW
12th Avenue, as Abiaka Park - **(Commission District 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution approving the name “Abiaka Park” for a new park in the City of Fort Lauderdale, located at 501 SW 12th Avenue.

Background

On November 17, 2020, the City Commission approved a motion for the purchase and sale agreement for real property located at SW 5th Court and SW 12th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33313 (CAM #20-0917) in the amount of \$4,050,000. The site is approximately 2.165 acres with 750+/- linear feet of frontage on the north side of the north fork of the New River and within proximity to Riverside Park.

The naming of the park as “Abiaka Park” received majority support at the Riverside Park Residents Association meeting held on January 8, 2025, where a show-of-hands vote confirmed the community’s approval.

On February 6, 2025, the Parks and Recreation Department received a formal request from Patsy West and Tim Andrews to name the new park “Abiaka Park.” The proposed name honors the indigenous leader Abiaka, who traversed the waterways from the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway to the New River. The north and south forks of the New River form the eastern boundary of the present-day Riverside Park neighborhood.

In compliance with the Guidelines for the Naming of City Parks, Recreation Areas, and Major Facilities, Parks and Recreation staff notified the surrounding neighborhood associations of the suggested name for the new city park. In addition, a public advisory notice was placed at the subject park informing the public that the proposed name would be placed on the February 26, 2025, meeting agenda for the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (“Board”).

At the February 26, 2025, meeting, the Board passed a motion recommending the name “Abiaka Park” to the City Commission for approval as the name for the new park. The item was approved 10-0 through a roll call vote.

Resource Impact

There is a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$2,000 for signage at the entrance to the park. Funds are available in the FY 2025 Budget in the account listed below:

<i>Funds available as of April 23, 2025</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABL E BALANCE (Character)	PURCH ASE AMOUN T
10-001-6034-572-30-3516	General Parks Maintenance	Services/Materials / External Printing	\$9,833,330	\$1,365,096	\$2,000
PURCHASE TOTAL ►					\$2,000

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Public Spaces and Community Initiatives.

This item supports the 2029 Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area, Goal 5: Build a beautiful and welcoming community.

This item advances the Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are Here

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Place specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Area
- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our city.

Attachments

- Exhibit 1 – Proposal for Naming New Park from Patsy West and Tom Andrew
- Exhibit 2 – Naming of City Parks, Recreation Areas and Major Facilities
- Exhibit 3 – January 8, 2025, Riverside Park Residents Association Minutes
- Exhibit 4 – February 26, 2025, Parks, Recreation and Beaches Board Minutes
- Exhibit 5 – March 11, 2025, Letter to Civic Association President
- Exhibit 6 – April 21, 2025, Letter to Civic Association President Re: Commission Date
- Exhibit 7 – April 28, 2025, Riverside Park Residents' Association Support Letter
- Exhibit 8 – Resolution

Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Asst. to the Director, Parks and Recreation

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation