

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject

Honorary Bridge Naming

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Purpose

To establish criteria and procedures to guide the honorary naming of bridges within the Department of Public Works (DPW) County Maintained Roads. Honorary naming of County bridges requires Board of Supervisors approval, by resolution, and adopted with a majority vote.

Background

The County owns, and maintains bridges for public use. Constituents within the County have expressed interest in naming bridges to honor individuals from their unincorporated community. While Board Policy F-46 establishes the Board of Supervisors as the responsible authority for naming “County buildings and other County facilities”, specific authority does not exist for the naming of bridges within the County’s jurisdiction. An Honorary Bridge Naming policy would provide an opportunity for constituents to honor an individual or entity and celebrate their community’s unique history. Any request to name a bridge shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Definitions

“Bridge” means a structure including supports erected over a depression or an obstruction, such as water, highway, or railway, and having a passageway for carrying vehicular traffic, and having an opening measured along the center of the roadway of more than 20 feet between under copings of abutments or spring lines of arches, or extreme ends of openings for multiple boxes. These types of above ground bridges are defined and listed in the Federal National Bridge Inventory (NBI). Only these types of bridges supporting a County maintained roadway may be considered for naming.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

Subject to the criteria below, County bridges shall only be named after an individual or entity pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Supervisors:

1. The person being honored must be deceased and all persons and entities must have provided extraordinary public service or some exemplary contribution to the public good and should have a connection to the unincorporated community where the bridge is located.
2. The requester must be a constituent of the unincorporated community where the bridge is located, and the proposal must identify the requested name.

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3. The proposal shall name the specific above-ground National Bridge Inventory listed bridge and be supported by a petition signed by at least 100 residents from the unincorporated community where the bridge is located.

4. The proposal must then be placed on the agenda and presented by the requester to the local Community Planning/Sponsor Group (where applicable) for consideration and recommendation. If there is no Community Planning/Sponsor Group that represents the location of the bridge, this step is not required.

5. Following consideration by the local Community Planning/Sponsor Group, the proposal for the Honorary Bridge Naming shall be presented by the requester to the member of the Board of Supervisors representing the Supervisorial District where the bridge is located, for approval.

6. The member of the Board of Supervisors representing the Supervisorial District where the bridge is located may docket a letter recommending the designation to the Board of Supervisors.

7. Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, the Department of Public Works shall install and maintain the Honorary Bridge Naming signs on each end of the bridge. The Honorary Bridge Naming signs shall meet the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) standards for a white on green guide sign.

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-2023.

Board Action

12/06/2017 (7)

CAO Reference

1. Department of Public Works