

COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

TO: City Council

FROM: Alex Posada, Director of Recreation and Parks

DATE: April 8, 2025

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO NAME A CITY FACILITY OR PARK ON BEHALF OF JIM GLINES IN RECOGNITION OF HIS EXTENSIVE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Recreation and Parks Commission consider and approve a recommendation to the City Council to name a City facility or park on behalf of Jim Glines, for his nearly 25 years of service to the community.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council has established a practice in naming City parks and facilities. Nominations/recommendations for naming City parks are presented to the City Manager, investigated by the Recreation and Parks Department, and then advanced to the Recreation and Parks Commission for review and comments before being sent to the City Council for action.

DISCUSSION:

Jim Glines was a lifelong resident of the City of Santa Maria whose contributions to banking, philanthropy, and community service left a lasting mark. His beginnings were formed growing up on a cattle ranch in Cuyama Valley, and he carried that rural work ethic into his career, earning degrees in Farm Management from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, in 1965.

Jim went to work for Bank of Santa Maria in 1983, where he met Bill Hares, then President of the bank. After the bank was sold to Mid-State Bank, Jim and Bill decided to open their own bank. In 2001, he co-founded the Community Bank of Santa Maria, serving as its president and later chairman. Under his leadership, the bank became a trusted institution dedicated to supporting local businesses and residents. His approachable personality and deep community ties made him a well-known figure, often appearing in television ads, sometimes on horseback, as a nod to his passion for ranching and the local rodeo scene. Through his natural generous disposition, Jim quickly became a pillar in the Santa Maria community.

Beyond his banking career, Glines was a celebrated auctioneer, using his skills to raise millions for charities and youth programs in the community he loved so much. In 2001, he

earned the title of California State Champion Auctioneer, cementing his reputation as one of the best in the field. He also played a significant role in the Santa Maria Elks Lodge, where he chaired the Elks Rodeo Queen Contest for two decades and was recognized as "Citizen of the Year" in 2008. His service extended to organizations like Los Rancheros Visitadores and the Santa Barbara County Fair Board, where he served as president after being appointed by Governor George Deukmejian. Whether through fundraising, leadership, or mentorship, Glines was dedicated to strengthening the community he loved.

Jim loved the community of Santa Maria, and the community loved him right back. He was often asked to speak on the history of the Santa Maria Valley and could tell stories for days about the city's pioneers and founding fathers. He was known to many as Mr. Santa Maria. He was bigger than life in every way, giving tirelessly to charities, his city, and his friends.

When he passed away at 82, the Santa Maria community mourned the loss of a man who had given so much. In his honor, the Santa Maria Noon Rotary Club established the James "Jim" Glines Memorial Scholarship to support local students in pursuit of higher education. The widespread news of his passing speaks to his ability to bring people together. Jim Glines' legacy lives on not just in the financial sector but in the many lives he touched through his kindness, leadership, and unwavering commitment to Santa Maria.

Fiscal Considerations

Typical costs for updating signage at a park or facility can range from \$2500 to \$5000, depending on the size and material used. Funds for such signage are usually provided by the department from its annual General Fund allocation. Another option could be to enlist the support of the community to cover these costs by developing a fundraising campaign at the discretion of the City Council.

Impact to the Community

Naming/dedicating a City facility or park in someone's honor, commemorates the extensive contributions to the Santa Maria community provided by the nominee, it enhances our community's values and the heritage of public service to the City of Santa Maria. In addition, the location will provide a fitting memorial of Jim Glines' achievements.

Attachment: Resolution- Park Naming