

From: susan williams <srwillia@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 9:10 AM
To: squintero@fresnocountyca.gov
Cc: Pacheco, Brian; Brandau, Steve; Mendes, Buddy; Magsig, Nathan; Clerk/BOS; pnerlander@fresnocountyca.gov
Subject: City resolution ID-403 dated March 9, 2023 Kings Canyon/Ventura/California name change to Cesar Chavez Blvd
Attachments: March 14 BOS ID23-403.pdf

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Supervisors Quintero, Pacheco, Brandau, Mendes, and Massig,

We are concerned that the City resolution to change Kings Canyon Road, Ventura, and California Avenues has not been properly vetted, and if passed, eliminates the history and value these roads have to all Fresno.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sue Williams
For the Board of Directors of the Sunnyside Property Owners Association

If you could acknowledge receipt of this document I would appreciate it.

March 14, 2023

Sunnyside Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 8096
Fresno, CA 93747

Fresno County Board of Supervisors
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721

Supervisor Sal Quintero, Chair
Supervisor Nathan Magsig, Vice Chair
Supervisor Steve Brandau
Supervisor Brian Pacheco
Supervisor Buddy Mendes

ATT: Supervisor Sal Quintero

RE: City of Fresno Resolution to Begin the Process to Change Kings Canyon/Ventura Boulevard to "Cesar Chavez Boulevard" ID 23-403 March 9, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Sunnyside Property Owners Association would like to bring the aforementioned City of Fresno Resolution to your attention. We are concerned with the lack of community engagement, the economic impact to residents, business owners, City and County taxpayers, and the total disregard of the historic significance of Kings Canyon Road, Ventura Avenue and California Avenue.

The item was placed on the Council's consent calendar in February of last year and again last week without notification. The February 2022 Resolution directed the administration to pursue the process to change Kings Canyon/Ventura Boulevard to "Avenida Cesar Chavez" and direct the formation of a Citizens Committee. It states: "Whereas, community involvement in the proposed process of a street renaming is an utmost importance to the Council; and Whereas, appointing a committee of effected business owners and residents affected by the proposed name change will provide guidance when considering the renaming of a City Street." However, last week's agenda item failed to include any information as to stakeholders, community outreach, other streets that may have been considered, or community meetings regarding this topic; it also fails to mention California Avenue.

The Council stated that the item will now be noticed and it will be brought back for a vote later this month. The resolution attached to last week's agenda item (<https://fresno.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=11692409&GUID=9DC600A1-452C-4F5A-9F76-C75368461459>) directs the Administration "to proceed with the renaming of East Kings Canyon Road, East Ventura Avenue, and West California Avenue alignment, which runs east to west between Marks Avenue and Temperance Avenue, to 'Cesar Chavez Boulevard.' The Fresno County Board of Supervisors will be notified of the Renaming Project and requested and encouraged to effectuate change within County jurisdiction along the alignment of the Renaming Project." The City has allocated \$1 million dollars in the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 budget in connection with the Renaming Project to cover the application fee, labor and materials, replacement of existing City Street signs, and replacement of Caltrans freeway signage.

Kings Canyon Road is the original Highway 180 to Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks and is recorded in millions of local, state and federal records, news accounts, travel sites and historic records. It was created as Legislative Route 41, from General Grant Grove to the Kings River Canyon in 1905 and was upgraded to Fresno in 1919. The City of Fresno was founded by the Central Pacific Railroad in 1872. The new station was selected on a scouting party after Leland Stanford noticed an irrigated wheat

field belonging to A.Y. Easterby and proclaimed, "Here we must build our town!" Easterby partnered with Moses Church to plan and survey a canal to run five miles from the Kings River to Fancher Creek, which flowed from the foothills in the rainy season. The names of streets and schools still reflect our early history. *Serving Fresno since 1880, Kings Canyon and its watershed brought irrigated farming to Fresno and put the City of Fresno on the map.* Fresno County is now ranked first in the nation for agricultural production with sales in excess of \$8 billion in 2022 because of Kings Canyon!

The City Council Agenda Item is being noticed after the fact; neighbors and business owners have not been given the proper notification prior to the Council's plan to move forward.

The 1993 resolution to rename Kings Canyon was rescinded due to overwhelming opposition. Resolution 93-395 states, "Whereas the City Council, after taking appropriate public testimony on October 12, October 26, and November 30 has found that the names Kings Canyon, Ventura and California have special prominence and significance to the culture and history of Fresno."

The Sunnyside Property Owners Association represents residents and businesses of both the City and County of Fresno. While we represent Southeast Fresno we support *all* of Fresno and the heritage of our neighborhoods.

For more than 100 years, Kings Canyon Road, Ventura Avenue and California Avenue have been deemed to have special prominence and significance to the culture and history of the City and County of Fresno. They are part of who we are and what we are. They honor the past and respect the present and are archived, written, and reported in millions of records. Preserving them-preserves "One" Fresno.

We would ask that our County Representatives, your Board, seriously consider the impact this Resolution has on all of us and involve the community in any action pertaining to changing the name of Kings Canyon Road, Ventura and California Avenues.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Williams, for the Board of Directors of the Sunnyside Property Owners Association

TO: Nelson Esparza
Dist. 7

DATE: 3/27/23
RECEIVED
MAR 29 2023

CLERK. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DEAR: Nelson,

RE: Letter to SAVE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS - and rescind resolution #23-403 dated March 9, 2023 to rename Kings Canyon Road, Ventura and California Avenue.

As a citizen and stakeholder in the City and/or County of Fresno, and a business owner, and/or property owner, and/or resident in an effected neighborhood, I support City Council Resolution 93- 395 approved on November 30, 1993, finding Kings Canyon, Ventura and California have special prominence and significance to the culture and history of the City of Fresno in that:

California is the name of our state traceable back to 1540; Ventura honors a member of the Franciscan order who contributed to the history of Fresno as part of California and also honors a neighboring county in the same manner as adjoining streets; and Kings Canyon honors the Kings Canyon National Park an area originally named in 1805.

Therefore, I demand that the City of Fresno take immediate action to rescind Resolution #23-403. Thank you.

For you to compare 4 blocks of Rev. Riggins St. to an 11 mile Blvd. for Chavez is absurd! For you to say that children need to know who he is by naming a street after him is asinine... children learn about who he is in history class, at school or at home from their parents, like we had to learn about BLACK history because they don't teach that in school!!!!
Compromise, name the street Cesar Chavez Adult school sits on after C. Chavez, that's fair....

Respectfully,

Signed Marie Brown

Printed Marie Brown

Heidi Nakayama
5459 E. Atchison Street
Fresno, CA 93727

March 28, 2023

Fresno City Council
President Tyler Maxwell (Tyler.Maxwell@fresno.gov)
Vice President Annalisa Perea (Annalisa.Perea@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Mike Karbassi (Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Miguel Arias (Miguel.Arias@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Luis Chavez (Luis.Chavez@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Garry Bredefeld (Garry.Bredefeld@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Nelson Esparza (Nelson.Esparza@fresno.gov)

RE: ID 23-403; RESOLUTION - To Begin the Process to Change Kings Canyon/Ventura Boulevard to "Cesar Chavez Boulevard" (Subject to Mayor's veto)

Dear President Maxwell, Vice President Perea, and Councilmembers Karbassi, Arias, Chavez, Bredefeld, and Esparza:

I am a 40 year resident of the Fresno Sunnyside area directly affected by any decision to rename Kings Canyon Road. Shame on the City Council for pushing a political agenda to benefit yourselves at the expense of many! No Street in Fresno should be "renamed" above all an already historically named street such as Kings Canyon. Kings Canyon Road has 100 years of history in Fresno with memories and that would be erased forever because of your foolishness. Businesses are still struggling to come back after Covid and your decision could cause them unjustifiable time and money.

There is no benefit to renaming Kings Canyon Road other than to satisfy a selfish political agenda. New developments around Fresno offer plenty of alternatives to name a new street after Mr. Chavez. Please use some commonsense and name a new street after Mr. Chavez.

Sincerely,

Heidi Nakayama
Sunnyside Resident

CC: Mayor Jerry Dyer, Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Heidi Nakayama
5459 E. Atchison Street
Fresno, CA 93727

March 28, 2023

Fresno City Council
President Tyler Maxwell (Tyler.Maxwell@fresno.gov)
Vice President Annalisa Perea (Annalisa.Perea@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Mike Karbassi (Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Miguel Arias (Miguel.Arias@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Luis Chavez (Luis.Chavez@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Garry Bredefeld (Garry.Bredefeld@fresno.gov)
Councilmember Nelson Esparza (Nelson.Esparza@fresno.gov)

RE: ID 23-403; RESOLUTION - To Begin the Process to Change Kings Canyon/Ventura Boulevard to "Cesar Chavez Boulevard" (Subject to Mayor's veto)

Dear President Maxwell, Vice President Perea, and Councilmembers Karbassi, Arias, Chavez, Bredefeld, and Esparza:

I am a 40 year resident of the Fresno directly affected by the attempt to rename Kings Canyon Road. There is no benefit to renaming the historical Kings Canyon Road other than to satisfy a selfish political agenda. New developments around Fresno offer plenty of alternatives to name a new street after Mr. Chavez.

This is foolish and frivolous spending of tax payer money and its affects would be departmental to all the struggling business along it route. Taxpayer monies should be used for more important things that our city so desperately needs;

- Fix our enormous amount deteriorating streets and potholes.
- Hire police to fight the crime we hear about every night on local news. Safe neighborhoods should be your top priority.
- Cleanup our city homeless trash residue and graffii that is everywhere.
- Educate our children whose marks are at an all-time low.
- Make Fresno beautiful and safe again.

Sincerely,

Heidi Nakayama
Sunnyside Resident

CC: Mayor Jerry Dyer, Fresno County Board of Supervisors

From: debbie debbiedog.com <debbie@debbiedog.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 10:05 AM
To: Pacheco, Brian; Brandau, Steve; squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; Mendes, Buddy; District 5; Nerland, Paul; Clerk/BOS; White, Sequia; jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov; miguel.arias@fresno.gov; tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov; luis.chavez@fresno.gov; garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; nelson.esparza@fresno.gov; Georgeanne.white@fresno.gov; todd.stermer@fresno.gov
Subject: Sensible honoring for Caesar Chavez

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

To all supervisors, councilmen, Fresno City Clerk, City Manager and Mayor,

I am writing with a **heartfelt plea** to honor Caesar Chavez with a **common sense** approach. The current renaming of the historic existing streets of Kings Canyon, Ventura and California is a true **unnecessary action** because of these valid points:

1. Financial burden to those affected by this action. Can they be reimbursed for their time and their frustrations to accomplish change? This action will create these burdens.
2. This action is erasing the historical significance of the existing street names. This is history and history should never be erased because you can never replace what history was. History is of life in the past based on evidence which cannot be changed in the present or it would not be called history. History is a teaching tool for the future and therefore should NEVER be changed but learned from instead.
3. Through this action, you are creating the division of the people instead of uniting those you honor.
4. The community represented by you has been left out of any input or reasonable notification about this change! Aren't we in America where we at least have a say in this matter? You represent all of Fresno and not a special interest. This abrupt action without representation of the people will affect so many, upset so many and cause so many to distrust you and the system which has failed the people. You work for the people so shame on you for failing to do your due process to those people who rely on you to do the right action.
5. Is this a sensible way to honor Caesar Chavez or could there be a better way that won't hurt and upset so many people? Yes there is!!!
6. *One thing is certain, the main reason for this effort is to honor Caesar Chavez but my plea is do this in a practical, logical way*

Positive suggestions to honor Caesar Chavez without burdens to the people, without erasing history and still accomplishing honoring Caesar Chavez A win win for all involved:

1. Monument at a place of public interest that has his life story to read by all. Have you ever read the historical signs on a trip along the way? Pretty interesting and part of history.
2. Name the huge new soccer complex on Peach Ave. in honor of Caesar Chavez..
3. Name or even create a youth center naming it Caesar Chavez for all youths to prosper
4. Name a new community park after Caesar Chavez
5. Name a new street in a new subdivision in the South side of town or wherever you want

This is the time to do what is sensible, logical and right for Caesar Chavez and the people whose voices you represent. Don't let them down!!

Debbie Christian and Jim Christian-Southeast residents

From: jmkhush@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 12:18 PM
To: jmkhush@comcast.net
Subject: The renaming of California, Ventura, and Kings Canyon Avenues

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

RE: THE FRESNO CITY COUNCILS VOTE OF RENAMING CALIFORNIA, VENTURA AND KINGS CANYON AVENUES

March 29, 2023

Dear Fresno County Supervisor,

It is appalling that certain city political figures have totally ignored the usual policy and procedures and somehow forgot to engage the public as they quietly promoted and legislated the renaming of California, Ventura, and Kings Canyon Avenues, which represent over 100 years of Fresno history. Furthermore, the Fresno Bee and Mayor Dyer of Fresno have communicated that this is a "Done Deal".

We do not dispute the significant impact made by Mr. Cesar Chavez. He was and is a very important person to many people. At the same time, the 100+ year significant history of Fresno has been defined by its streets, neighborhoods and communities. A decision to erase these major street names is outrageous, and appears reckless and impulsive. Why has the Fresno City Council promoted a disruption of the long-standing connection and unity of Fresno's neighbors and neighborhoods. Why was such an action needed? There appear to be many equally effective ways to honor Mr. Chavez without the damage and hardship this decision will cause.

In reality, there is absolutely **NO real tangible benefit** for any person or business by changing these street names. On the other hand, there is **significant and totally unnecessary hardship and detriment** to the people and businesses along California, Ventura, and Kings Canyon Avenues. Did the Fresno City Council consider what harm they were doing as they quietly pushed through and secured the majority vote of the City Council?

Where was the public input? Why was the general public not invited to participate? The decision to approve the name change is a clear violation of trust by the Fresno City council and, even worse, it is a slap in the face of the citizens and ethnic groups who have been part of and have shared this common history. The sentiment we are expressing was clearly communicated in a recent large meeting of community residents who represented people of all nationalities in Fresno. Uniformly, the participants felt the city council has betrayed the public trust by this specific action that effectively erases and/or masks our important history.

Let me summarize some of the major problems:

1. Rewriting or erasing the years of history that bind many people in this city from West Fresno, downtown and far east to the mountains. Let's reflect on the significant citizens who attended Edison High School, the downtown area, convention center and the many visitors that passed through Fresno to see the mountains and the National Forests.

2. Encumbering numerous businesses and individuals both financially and in time spent.

- a. Businesses will be encumbered and have to spend an inordinate amount of time and money changing documents to satisfy the city, county, state, and federal governments.

b. Elderly in apartments and nursing homes will have to change their addresses on all official documents including financial documents, medical insurance, government and business websites and more.

3. There is no direct connection between Mr. Cesar Chavez and these streets.

4. The City of Fresno plans to spend 1 million dollars on this renaming project. We are certain the City Council can spend this money in a much wiser fashion.

This problematic behavior/action of the Fresno City Council clearly promotes and teaches the next generation that when some other accomplished person arrives on the scene, it will be fully acceptable for political figures to (quietly) erase history for the latest political agenda. For example: It won't be long until someone realizes that "Avenida Cesar Chavez" was named after Mr. Cesar Chavez who was a devout Catholic who valued St. Francis of Assisi (*A man that highly honored Jesus Christ, or God in the flesh, as the motivation to change the culture and care for the poor and marginalized.*). Because of such faith, they might conclude he was a fanatic and evil. Such future political leaders will then justify the future tearing down and the erasing of any memorial to God inspired people, like Cesar Chavez. Do our leaders understand their actions? Sound familiar? What message should we give to the next generation? Again, there are many ways to honor historically important people without removing the past.

Let's preserve these historical streets that have so long defined us. Our leaders should promote decisions that unify our people and display honorable, moral civic character. Please rescind your vote to change the names of California, Ventura, and Kings Canyon Avenues.

Sincerely,

Lifelong residents of Fresno, CA

Jacob Khushigian, M.D.

Susan Khushigian

From: Linda Lopez <lindalopezatkins@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 1:27 PM
To: jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; luis.chavez@fresno.gov; miguel.arias@fresno.gov;
garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov; nelson.esparza@fresno.gov;
todd.stermer@fresno.gov; annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov;
georgeanne.white@fresno.gov
Cc: Magsig, Nathan; Brandau, Steve; squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; Mendes, Buddy;
Nerland, Paul; Clerk/BOS; White, Steven; Rodney Atkins
Subject: RESCIND City of Fresno Resolution #23-403

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Dear Fresno Mayor, City Council members, City Manager and City Clerk,

As a citizen, stakeholder and resident of the City and County of Fresno, I support City Council Resolution 93-395 approved on November 30, 1993, finding Kings Canyon, Ventura and California have special prominence and significance to the culture and history of the City of Fresno in that:

California is the name of our state traceable back to 1540; Ventura honors a member of the Franciscan order who contributed to the history of Fresno as part of California and also honors a neighboring county in the same manner as adjoining streets; and Kings Canyon honors the Kings Canyon National Park, an area originally named in 1805.

Therefore, we demand that the City of Fresno take immediate action to rescind Resolution #23-403. We further demand that our city leaders, instead of wasting taxpayer and struggling businesses' dollars, focus their attention on immediate and problematic matters in our city: the homelessness population - especially those along Kings Canyon Road; pave and maintain our roads; and bring more businesses into our area. The names of Kings Canyon Road, Ventura and California Avenues should remain as they are.

If you must institute a Cesar Chavez Road or Avenue, use P Street in front of City Hall or any other number or alphabet street in the City of Fresno or find another way to honor him in addition to what already exists in the City. Pushing through this name change without appropriate public input does not convey that you are truly representing your constituents but only brings up divisiveness and does not conform to your notion of One Fresno!

Respectfully,

Rod Atkins and Linda Lopez-Atkins

Copy: Fresno County Board of Supervisors

From: Christine Darmanian <cdarmani@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:13 PM
To: Clerk/BOS
Subject: Rescind Resolution #23-403

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Dear Berniece Seidel, Fresno County Clerk

Please see the letter below that I have written to the Fresno City Council members – Please note that I am against the name change proposed by the Fresno City Council

RE: Letter to rescind resolution #23-403 dated March 9, 2023 to rename Kings Canyon Road, Ventura and Californian Avenue.

I am a property owner located near Kings Canyon Road and I attend Church on Ventura Avenue. I was never notified of the pending consideration and approval of Resolution #23-403 and was denied due process regarding the City of Fresno's intent to rename Kings Canyon, Ventura and California Avenues.

All three streets are important to me personally. I have lived in the area for 65 years on a ranch near Kings Canyon Road; I was baptized and I am an active member of the Historic Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church located on Ventura; and my father was principal at Edison High school for 10 years, which is located on California Ave. There are so many wonderful memories of my Dad taking us kids to Edison for basketball, football games and to help with events at the school.

These are all memories of a lifetime for me and my family, and I continue to live and attend church on these historic streets. It is a shame that the history of these street names and the memories for many residents of Fresno is going to be erased with a resolution. The City Council did not ask for public input and has no regard for how the residents feel about the change.

Kings Canyon is the road associated with our beautiful National Park, it would be a shame to remove the name. The is tremendous cost associated with the name change, not only to the City, and County, but also to all the businesses along these streets. This money can be put to better use to address homelessness, deteriorating streets, crime prevention, and many more areas.

There are many different ways that the city can honor Cesar Chavez. Please look at alternatives to honor him.

I am against the name change of each street and I am asking that the City of Fresno take action to rescind Resolution #23-403.

Thank you

Christine Darmanian

Christine Darmanian

6291 E. Alta Ave

Fresno, CA 93727

(559) 255-6291

From: debbie debbiedog.com <debbie@debbiedog.com>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 1:52 PM
To: Pacheco, Brian; Brandau, Steve; squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; Mendes, Buddy; District 5; Nerland, Paul; Clerk/BOS; White, Sequia; jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov; miguel.arias@fresno.gov; tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov; luis.chavez@fresno.gov; garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; nelson.esparza@fresno.gov; Georgeanne.white@fresno.gov; todd.stermer@fresno.gov
Cc: ALETHA LANG; CHARLES SMALL; DAN/ANNETTE HUSAK; DEBBY MCCANN; DENNIS&BROOKE FROST; HEIDI ENGLISH; JACKIE GRAZIER; john carlson (jincarlson@outlook.com); JOHN WALKE; JULIE SMALL; KAREN MUSSON; LAURA MARES; LILY PHANTHACHACK; MARION VRANIZAN (marionvranizan@comcast.net); MARK SHERRELL; mfment1@gmail.com Mary Montgomery; MICHELLE GIBBS (MgibbsSells@gmail.com); PAM HIGGINS (higgyrn@comcast.net); RANDY SAKAMOTO; Reimer Candi; RON&JUDY JOHNSON; sekhush@comcast.net; SHANNON MUELLER; Stephanie Sherrell (stephsherrell@comcast.net); STEVE VASQUEZ; SUE WILLIAMS
Subject: WHY?? KC,Ventura, California rename

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

To All,
Out of all of you who voted for the renaming to Caesar Chavez on the city council, can one of you tell me WHY there was not another REASONABLE option taken to achieve the same results of honoring Caesar Chavez for his work in helping the farm workers???????????????? ALSO, Don't we live in America because we have the right to have our voices heard???

1. Name the new soccer park to Caesar Chavez with a beautiful Statue with his life history;;;WHY NOT DO THIS??
2. Adopt a highway with his name as is done all along the freeways WHO NOT DO THIS??
3. Name a youth center devoted to helping kids to go the right path in his name. WHY NOT DO THIS??
4. Name a new street to Caesar Chavez...WHY NOT DO THIS??

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR STREET CHANGED AS COMPARED TO ANY OF THESE OPTIONS.
WE HAVE NEVER SAID WE ARE AGAINST THE HONORING OF CAESAR CHAVEZ!!!

Severally disappointed and flabbergasted with this forced on the people decision that goes against the freedom of democracy.

I will be awaiting an answer from anyone who has any common sense left in them.

THANKS,

Jim and Debbie Christian

From: Mary Montgomery <mfment1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 3:36 PM
To: debbie debbiedog.com
Cc: Pacheco, Brian; Brandau, Steve; squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; Mendes, Buddy; District 5; Nerland, Paul; Clerk/BOS; White, Sequia; jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov; miguel.arias@fresno.gov; tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov; luis.chavez@fresno.gov; garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; nelson.esparza@fresno.gov; Georgeanne.white@fresno.gov; todd.sterner@fresno.gov; ALETHA LANG; CHARLES SMALL; DAN/ANNETTE HUSAK; DEBBY MCCANN; DENNIS&BROOKE FROST; HEIDI ENGLISH; JACKIE GRAZIER; john carlson (jincarlson@outlook.com); JOHN WALKE; JULIE SMALL; KAREN MUSSON; LAURA MARES; LILY PHANTHACHACK; MARION VRANIZAN (marionvranizan@comcast.net); MARK SHERRELL; MICHELLE GIBBS (MgibbsSells@gmail.com); PAM HIGGINS (higgym@comcast.net); RANDY SAKAMOTO; Reimer Candi; RON&JUDY JOHNSON; sekhus@comcast.net; SHANNON MUELLER; Stephanie Sherrell (stephsherrell@comcast.net); STEVE VASQUEZ; SUE WILLIAMS
Subject: Re: WHY?? KC,Ventura, California rename

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

I'm seriously disappointed in your decision. Looks like we have a WOKE CITY Government on our hands. The money the businesses and the homeowners that you are putting them thru is horrendous! May GOD help your souls.
Mary Montgomery

On Fri, Mar 31, 2023 at 1:52 PM debbie debbiedog.com <debbie@debbiedog.com> wrote:

To All,

Out of all of you who voted for the renaming to Caesar Chavez on the city council, can one of you tell me WHY there was not another REASONABLE option taken to achieve the same results of honoring Caesar Chavez for his work in helping the farm workers????????????? ALSO, Don't we live in America because we have the right to have our voices heard???

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WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR STREET CHANGED AS COMPARED TO ANY OF THESE OPTIONS.

WE HAVE NEVER SAID WE ARE AGAINST THE HONORING OF CAESAR CHAVEZ!!!

Severally disappointed and flabbergasted with this forced on the people decision that goes against the freedom of democracy.

I will be awaiting an answer from anyone who has any common sense left in them.

THANKS,

Jim and Debbie Christian

From: PAM HIGGINS <higgyrn@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2023 10:42 AM
To: Pacheco, Brian; Brandau, Steve; squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; Mendes, Buddy; District 5; Nerland, Paul; Clerk/BOS; White, Sequia; jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov; miguel.arias@fresno.gov; tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov; luis.chavez@fresno.gov; garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; nelson.esparza@fresno.gov; Georgeanne.white@fresno.gov; todd.stermer@fresno.gov
Cc: ALETHA LANG; DEBBY MCCANN; HEIDI ENGLISH; JACKIE GRAZIER; john carlson (jncarlson@outlook.com); KAREN MUSSON; LAURA MARES; LILY PHANTHACHACK; MARION VRANIZAN (marionvranizan@comcast.net); mfment1@gmail.com Mary Montgomery; MICHELLE GIBBS (MgibbsSells@gmail.com); RANDY SAKAMOTO; Reimer Candi; RON&JUDY JOHNSON; sekhus@comcast.net; SHANNON MUELLER; Stephanie Sherrell (stephsherrell@comcast.net); SUE WILLIAMS; Debbie@DebbieDog.com
Subject: Name change - Kings Canyon, Venture, California Avenue Opinion

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Good morning,

I am writing this message to express my disappointment over your decision to proceed with renaming Kings Canyon Boulevard and California Avenue to Avenida Cesar Chavez. There are so many ways to honor this man - we already have his name on Adult Education and very soon, a soccer field in SE Fresno. Unfortunately, this decision only serves to divide the community rather than build bridges. The name, Kings Canyon, represents many things to many people. We serve as a gateway to the Kings Canyon National Park and naming the street to this gateway is only appropriate. We are proud of our proximity to the national parks and want to show that pride. California Avenue also has special meaning to many people, not just to those who live in SW Fresno. The City Council defended their decision to purchase Tower Theater, citing their desire to preserve history and what it represents to the community who live the area. However, in this matter, little consideration is given to preserving our history and the importance to our community. It seems the Fresno Council in particular have little interest in listening to our concerns about the "done deal", as described in our local newspaper.

Edison High School is well known for their academic achievements and is a source of pride to our community. The name of the street where it is located is also a source of pride. It has special meaning to people who live there and graduated from the school. Certainly you can appreciate the desire to retain that historic pride in SE Fresno.

For people who live on Kings Canyon Blvd. and California Ave., and for those who have businesses on these streets, the name change will create significant costs, both in time making the administrative changes, and the monetary costs associated with updating their address. While the larger companies, such as Vons, Walmart, Home Depot, may be able to absorb the

associated costs, the small, locally owned business are going to be impacted the most. Many of these businesses took a major financial hit during the shutdown and now are dealing with the rising costs with inflation, shipping increases, etc. To implement the name change only adds to their financial burden. Further, has there been any consideration of the impact the name change will have on the people who live on Kings Canyon Blvd. or California Ave.? It's not that simple to change the address on a license - people will need to change the name with various companies, insurance, etc.

Change can be difficult but is often necessary for the good of the people. If opposing and approving factions had a fair opportunity to voice their concerns and feel they were heard by the City Council members, then I would respect the wishes of the majority. However, this change is not necessary and only fosters more division in the community. The article in the local newspaper cited the need to make the change before some people died. Some feel cheated that this change was not implemented 30 years ago. Since that time, there have been several ways our city has honored and celebrated the legacy of Cesar Chavez. This decision seems to be more political than a true desire to honor this man. Yes, change is difficult, but it is not necessary and I would argue the division it has created is not for the good of the people.

Fresno is facing many challenges. There are many people in our community that are hungry, unhoused, underserved, live in poverty, lack resources to better education and health care. While we argue over changing the name of the streets, these serious issues remain. Earmarking the million dollars set aside for the name change would be better spent on programs that address these challenges. I am dumbfounded over the decision to earmark that much money to rename a street when we are facing so many other challenges. Cesar Chavez was an iconic Mexican American labor organizer, civil rights activist, and to many, a folk hero. He dedicated his life to improving the pay and working conditions of farm workers, which nearly 2.5 million farm workers benefit from today. Surely, he would want this money to go towards improving the lives of the underserved people in our community.

Once again, I am disappointed in the decisions made by our city council. If this is truly a "done deal", and your decision is to move forward without full consideration to the name change, you have failed in your duty to represent us. I hope you reconsider this decision and find an appropriate way to honor Cesar Chavez's legacy, that will have a greater impact to helping those he served.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.

Pam Higgins
higgyn@comcast.net
Member of Fresno SE Community - Fresno County

From: Jackie Grazier <jackie.grazier@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2023 11:27 AM
To: PAM HIGGINS
Cc: ALETHA LANG; DEBBY MCCANN; Debbie@DebbieDog.com; Georgeanne.white@fresno.gov; HEIDI ENGLISH; KAREN MUSSON; LAURA MARES; LILY PHANTHACHACK; MARION VRANIZAN (marionvranizan@comcast.net); MICHELLE GIBBS (MgibbsSells@gmail.com); District 5; RANDY SAKAMOTO; RON&JUDY JOHNSON; Reimer Candi; SHANNON MUELLER; SUE WILLIAMS; Stephanie Sherrell (stephscherrell@comcast.net); annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; Mendes, Buddy; Pacheco, Brian; Clerk/BOS; garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; john carlson (jln Carlson@outlook.com); luis.chavez@fresno.gov; mfmment1@gmail.com Mary Montgomery; miguel.arias@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov; nelson.esparza@fresno.gov; Nerland, Paul; Brandau, Steve; sekhush@comcast.net; squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; White, Sequia; todd.stermer@fresno.gov; tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov
Subject: Re: Name change - Kings Canyon, Venture, California Avenue Opinion

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Excellent letter!!!! Jackie

On Sat, Apr 1, 2023 at 10:42 AM PAM HIGGINS <higgyn@comcast.net> wrote:

Good morning,

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Thank you for taking the time to read this message.

Pam Higgins

higgyn@comcast.net

Member of Fresno SE Community - Fresno County

From: KAREN MUSSON <kam9883@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2023 4:08 PM
To: Jackie Grazier
Cc: ALETHA LANG; DEBBY MCCANN; Debbie@DebbieDog.com;
Georgeanne.white@fresno.gov; HEIDI ENGLISH; LAURA MARES; LILY PHANTHACHACK;
MARION VRANIZAN (marionvranizan@comcast.net); MICHELLE GIBBS
(MgibbsSells@gmail.com); District 5; PAM HIGGINS; RANDY SAKAMOTO; RON&JUDY
JOHNSON; Reimer Candi; SHANNON MUELLER; SUE WILLIAMS; Stephanie Sherrell
(stephsherrell@comcast.net); annalisa.perea@fresno.gov; Mendes, Buddy; Pacheco,
Brian; Clerk/BOS; garry.bredefeld@fresno.gov; jerry.dyer@fresno.gov; john carlson
(jincarlson@outlook.com); luis.chavez@fresno.gov; mfment1@gmail.com Mary
Montgomery; miguel.arias@fresno.gov; mike.karbassi@fresno.gov;
nelson.esparza@fresno.gov; Nerland, Paul; Brandau, Steve; sekhush@comcast.net;
squintero@fresnocountyca.gov; White, Sequia; todd.stermer@fresno.gov;
tyler.maxwell@fresno.gov
Subject: Re: Name change - Kings Canyon, Venture, California Avenue Opinion

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Thank you, Pam - for taking the time express the feelings of our special neighborhoods. It's a beautiful letter.

Kare

On Sat, Apr 1, 2023 at 11:27 AM Jackie Grazier <jackie.grazier@gmail.com> wrote:
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find an appropriate way to honor Cesar Chavez's legacy, that will have a greater impact to helping those he served.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.

Pam Higgins

higgyn@comcast.net

Member of Fresno SE Community - Fresno County



Karen Musson, CEO

Gar & Esther Tootelian

Charitable Foundation

2020 Leon S. Peters Award

2019 WPHA Integrity Retailer

2

016 ARA - 2015 ERA Ag Retailer

Office:

800/696-6108

Cell: 559/908-9883

Email: kam9883@gmail.com

Sunnyside Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 8096
Fresno, CA 93747

April 3, 2023

Fresno City Council
2600 Fresno Street, Room 2097
Fresno, CA 93721

ATT: President Tyler Maxwell and Members of the Council
RE: Kings Canyon, Ventura and California Street Renaming

To say that the Fresno City Council has been working on the renaming of these streets for the past year is a false narrative. Last February of 2022, our board only found out about the council resolution to rename Kings Canyon Road and Ventura Avenue by chance, as the item was on the consent calendar. Upon passage, a committee subject to the Brown Act was to be formed, historical significance of current street names was to be evaluated, and the process to affect the street name explained. We submitted a letter on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sunnyside Property Owners Association detailing the history and value these street names held to the community. We heard nothing more for over a year.

Following that action, the City Council attended a workshop in July 2022 conducted by the Public Works department outlining the process to rename the streets. We just learned about this workshop, as no one was noticed, and there were no members of the public in attendance.

This year, only after seeing a March 6th article in the Fresno Bee about the Kings Canyon Corridor, did we find out that the item was coming back to Council for a vote. Again the March 9th agenda item was unnoticed as it was listed on the consent calendar. The length of street to be considered for renaming had increased to include California Avenue, only California Avenue was not included on the agenda item, but buried in the attached resolution. There were no citations attached regarding the committee results, process or historic significance of the current street names.

From February 17th of last year to March 9th of this year there were no community meetings, no surveys to determine how residents and businesses felt about the name change, no alternatives considered that were less onerous than renaming 10.2 miles of road and no notices sent to notify those affected by the name change. The process outlined in the July workshop was not followed. The methodology chosen to rename these three streets of special prominence and significance to the culture and history of Fresno (Resolution 93-395) was deliberate and closely controlled to ensure the intended outcome.

The March 30th Council meeting was a reflection of the frustration residents felt about being left out of the process. It was uncomfortable and totally preventable. And now, because the name change has not been noticed to date, the vast majority of the 3,150 impacted businesses and residences along Kings Canyon, Ventura and California remain unaware of the encumbrances about to take place, at considerable expense to taxpayers.

We ask the Council to reconsider your actions, initiate new hearings that follow process, engage your constituents, consider alternatives, evaluate the history and notice your actions when you deliberate so the public can participate and come to a conclusion that honors a man without tearing apart a community. Pastor B.T. Lewis of Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church said it best, "*The end does not justify the means, the means matter; the principles of right and justice are more important than winning or losing.*"

The Board of Directors of the Sunnyside Property Owners Association

Bcc

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Received a message that four out of five supervisors did NOT receive the email message.
Maybe Chairman Sal Quintero received the message.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nancy Kawamoto <nyka701@earthlink.net>
Date: April 11, 2023 12:24:19 AM PDT
To: Clerk/BOS@co.fresno.ca.us
Subject: **Fwd: Compromise on Chavez naming**

Hope the supervisors received this email message I sent.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nancy Kawamoto <nyk2701@earthlink.net>
Date: April 11, 2023 12:17:13 AM PDT
To: salquintero@co.fresno.ca.us, nathanmagsig@co.fresno.ca.us,
stevebrandau@co.fresno.ca.us, brianpacheco@co.fresno.ca.us,
buddymendes@co.fresno.ca.us
Subject: **Compromise on Chavez naming**

Dear Chairman Sal Quintero, Vice Chairman Nathan Magsig, Supervisor Steve Brandau, Supervisor Brian Pacheco, and Supervisor Buddy Mendes,

In her article "Compromise on Chavez naming" on 3/26/23, Sarah Soghomonian has very valid points.

I recently saw the last part of a segment involving the Globetrotters on TV. They were honoring someone special who did a lot for the neighborhood kids. They put the honoree's name UNDER the street sign names without changing the original street names.

We have honored individuals along the freeways without changing the name of the freeway. Why can't we do that to honor Caesar Chavez or anyone else without changing the current street names?

This option would also make it easier to recognize and honor special people without causing undue stress and costs to individuals and businesses. It is difficult enough for individuals to contact everyone when they move or change phone numbers.

Please consider placing the honoree's name UNDER the current street names as an option. It is a simple and less costly solution.

June Zink
8357 South Orange Avenue
Fresno, CA 93725

(559) 960-8632

(It may be easier to text me for verification since I don't answer unknown numbers.)

My sister, June Zink, wrote this letter for the Fresno Bee Editor and wanted the members of the Fresno City Council to have a copy so I emailed it to them.

After seeing the April 10th 11 p.m. news sharing that Fresno County Board of Supervisors will be discussing the Chavez naming,
I wanted you to have a copy of the letter.
Hope you will consider her suggestions.

It would help if the council members choose to honor Cesar Chavez by helping farm workers with the million dollars instead of changing the name of established roads.

Name a NEW road Cesar Chavez so it does not create problems for businesses and homes on the established roads.
Hope the council will change their vote.

Thank you,
Nancy Kawamoto

Item# 6
4/11/23

From: Benjamin, Marc
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 9:09 AM
To: Hancock, Kelley; De la Cruz, Dean; Vieira, Alexandria; Cesar, Hana
Subject: FW: Changing Kings canyon to Cesar Chavez

Received last night in District 1 email

From: Helen Montero <hmmontero2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 6:53 PM
To: District 1 <district1@fresnocountyca.gov>
Subject: Changing Kingscanyon to Cesar Chavez

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

I was nine years old worked the fields. My father was supporting 12 children. Cesar Chavez his people made death threads to my family. I oppose the changes. This would be confusing for the disable. Especially for Mental Heath patient. --
Helen Montero