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JAN 31 2024

CITY OF IRVINE
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Memo

To: Oliver C. Chi City Manager
From: Larry Agran, Vice Mayor *LA*
Date: January 31, 2024
Re: **Naming Request for City Facility – Mary Ann Gaido**

I respectfully request that the following naming opportunity be agendized for City Council consideration at the February 13, 2024, City Council meeting.

I want to recommend that the Sycamore Grove at the Bommer Canyon Preserve be dedicated to the memory of Mary Ann Gaido, former Irvine City Councilmember and Planning Commissioner. Mary Ann's remarkable contributions to the City of Irvine and her enduring dedication to public service will be cherished and remembered for generations.

As a long-time resident of Turtle Rock, Commissioner Gaido was appointed to the Planning Commission soon after Irvine's incorporation in 1971. She was a member of the City's first Transportation Phasing Task Force from 1974 to 1976, serving as chair from 1974-75. She served two terms on the Irvine City Council, from 1976 to 1984. She returned to the Planning Commission in the mid-1980s, and since then, served 20 years on the commission. Mary Ann was also dedicated to the visual and performing arts, including years of service on the Irvine Barclay Theatre Board.

Under her thoughtful leadership, Irvine experienced many significant accomplishments, including:

- Approving the City's first General Plan, a comprehensive, long-range vision of Irvine's future development and preservation.
- Acquiring 10,000 acres of open space and protecting parks through her efforts to purchase Bommer Canyon from the Irvine Company.
- Increasing the City's commitment to affordable housing.

In 2023, Mary Ann received the Ralph Kennedy Award for her decades of work in Irvine and throughout Orange County to increase affordable housing and advocate for those most in need.

Commissioner Gaido was a housing specialist for the Orange County Human Relations Commission. She was a member of several boards, including Jamboree Housing, Irvine

Barclay Theatre, the Kennedy Commission of Orange County, the Orange County Community Housing Corporation, and the Orange County Affordable Housing Clearinghouse.

Mary Ann was a lifetime member of the Orange Coast League of Women Voters and devoted to social justice work with the Interfaith Community in Orange County. In addition, she worked as Vice President of Government Relations at St. Joseph Health System.

Mary Ann Gaido dedicated more than five decades to public service for the benefit of Irvine residents. Accordingly, I recommend that the Sycamore Grove at the Cattle Camp at Bommer Canyon Preserve be dedicated to the memory of Mary Ann Gaido to ensure that she will forever be remembered as a truly great citizen of the City of Irvine.

cc: City Council
City Clerk