

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

Naming Proposal for Ballfield at Pan Am Neighborhood Park *Tony “TC” Castillo*



Kimberly McNeeley, Director
October 26, 2021

Pan American Neighborhood Park

- Sometimes referenced as the A.B. Cantu/Pan American Neighborhood Park
- Located at 307 Chicon St., Austin, Texas 78702
- 5.235 Acres
- District 3



Neighborhood Park History

- Park established in 1955-1956
- Home of the Oswald A.B. Cantu/Pan American Recreation Center
- Park Amenities playground, community garden and Tennis/Pickleball Courts
- Home of the Hillside Theater
 - Concert Series
 - Political Rally's
 - Smaller Special Events

History of Nominee Tony “TC” Castillo

- 1946-1971 Served on the Pan Am Advisory Board- and received 25th Anniversary Recipient Outstanding Male-Participant
- 1982 Johnston High School Teacher of the Year
- 1991 Texas Fastpitch “Father of the Year”
- 1999 National Latin American Softball Hall of Honor Inductee
- Community sports leader, umpire and coach for East Austin (fastpitch softball, golf, little league, basketball, etc.)
- Board Member for Parks and Recreation Department and Pan Am Recreation Advisory Board Center
- History/Government Teacher and Coach at Johnston High School for 33 years

Community Support

- Naming application submitted to Parks and Recreation Department.
- Application back up contains list of 28 supporters with contact information
- The following supports provided letters of endorsement
 - Ernesto Nieto, President and Founder of National Hispanic Institute
 - Bill Koen of Joe Koen and Son Jewelers
 - Herbert C. Martinez President/CEO Real Estate Executives of Austin
 - Arturo Gil, Former Teammate, PARB Member and PARD lifeguard
 - Augustine Garza, Deputy Director of Admissions, University of Texas at Austin
 - Gilbert Rodriguez, CEO American GI Forum of Texas, Inc.
 - Fidel Acevedo, President League of United Latin American Citizens
- Honorable Elisabeth Earle, Travis County Judge has expressed support

Requested PARB Action

Make a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Director regarding the naming of the ballfield at Pan American Neighborhood Park in honor of Tony “TC” Castillo.

Questions