



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP
Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: June 15, 2022

SUBJECT: Renaming Proposal for Pan American Neighborhood Park

This memorandum serves as the Austin Parks and Recreation Department's (Department) conclusion to the 90-day community engagement period following an application to rename Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Neighborhood Park. This memo, the attached application (Attachment A) and community input report (Attachment C) are being submitted in accordance with Austin City Code of Ordinances.

Process for Renaming a Park

The process for naming or renaming a park can be found in Austin City Code of Ordinances section [14-1-36](#), section [14-1-37](#), and section [14-1-39](#). On March 7, 2022, the Parks and Recreation Department director notified the Parks and Recreation Board, City Manager, and City Council of an application (Attachment A) to rename Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park, which began a 90-day period to receive public comment. The 90-day period ended on June 5, 2022. During that time, the department's Communications and Engagement Unit:

- Notified the community of the naming proposal through
 - email notification
 - social media notification
 - flyers at the Oswaldo "A.B." Cantu Pan American Recreation Center
 - flyer at local business
- Facilitated 5 community meetings (3 virtual, 2 in-person) (Attachment F).

Following the 90-day period, the Director is required to submit the application and any other nominations or endorsements to the Parks and Recreation Board.

This memorandum is the submission of the completed nominations and endorsements to the chair of the Parks and Recreation Board according to subsection [14-1-39](#)(F).

Pan American Neighborhood Park Background

The Pan American Neighborhood Park is tied deeply to East Austin's Mexican American and Chicano roots. In 1940, the National Youth Administration opened a community center in what is now Comal Park on 3rd and Comal in East Austin. In 1946, the Parks and Recreation Department took over management of this community center. In 1956, the center relocated to the current location on East 3rd and Chicon Street next to Zavala Elementary. A contest was held to decide the name of the center, and Dr. George I. Sanchez submitted the name "Pan American." Through the community engagement meetings, community elders shared that the Pan American name was to honor unity across North and South America, and it was significantly supported by Korean War veterans returning to East Austin at the time. The name given to the recreation center was also given to the surrounding park.

Since moving to the current location, the recreation center, park, ballfield, Hillside Theatre (opened in 1958), along with the school and neighborhood, have been intricately connected through programming and community. The Pan American Recreation Center's name was changed in 1996 to "Oswaldo 'A.B.' Cantu Pan American Recreation Center" in honor of Cantu's efforts to bring boxing, cooking classes, art classes and other activities to the community, as well as his work to keep kids away from drugs and gangs. The neighborhood park retained the name Pan American Neighborhood Park.

Augustine "Tony" Castillo Background

Coach Augustine "Tony" Castillo is a product of East Austin who served the community at Pan Am Park for 65 years. He attended school at Zavala Elementary, next to Pan Am Park, before attending Allan Middle School and graduating in the first class at Johnston High School. His involvement in the community dates back to his teenage years in the 1950s when he was among the founders of the Jokers softball team, a well-known group in East Austin. He continued his efforts by organizing a Jokers basketball team and hosting league tournaments for neighborhood youth. He coached sports at his alma mater Johnston High School before moving to Akins High prior to retirement.

In addition to sports, Castillo played an important role in expanding the community's political voice. His membership in LUCHA was significant in the election of first-time Latino office holders from East Austin that included Richard Moya, John Treviño, and Gonzalo Barrientos. Castillo also served on the Pan American Community Advisory Board.

In his approach of "leading by example," Castillo completed his studies at the University of Texas, taught in the classrooms of Austin ISD, and became head coach of the former Johnston High School Rams, leading the team to a historic "Final Four" state tournament appearance at the University of Texas in 1986.

In 1994, the East Austin Youth Association honored Castillo's dedication to the group and fundraising efforts to keep the association afloat by naming one of the little league fields after him. This field is located within Edward Rendon Sr. Metropolitan Park at Festival Beach, near Lorraine "Grandma" Camacho Activity Center. In addition, for Coach Castillo's 30 years of service at Johnston High School (now Eastside Early College High School), the student body initiated an effort to name the baseball field after him in 2000.

Community Engagement

Pan American Neighborhood Park is embedded within a neighborhood. The renaming ordinance requires PARD to “take reasonable steps to inform persons who are likely to have an interest . . . consider[ing] the nature and location of the facility and whether a particular community is likely to be especially interested in the process.”

To achieve this, the Department focused on the geographic area of the recreation center as well as connecting to the Oswaldo “A.B.” Cantu Pan American Recreation Center’s visitors and patrons. The team placed flyers (Attachment E) at local businesses, reached out to people connected to the park and Hillside Theatre, sent focused messages on Nextdoor to the area around the park, and sent general notices across the city through Facebook and Twitter. In addition, media notices were sent to local media outlets, and stories were published by KXAN ([May 2](#)), *Austin Monitor* ([March 31](#) and [May 5](#)), and *Austin Chronicle* [calendar of events](#).

Community comments were collected online and in-person using a short survey tool (Attachment B) that ran from March 30 through June 5, 2022. In addition, the Department increased the number of planned community meetings from two to five (three virtual, two in-person). Those meetings took place on April 28, 30, May 19, June 2 and 4, and included a presentation (Attachment D) about the process, the history of the park and the background of Coach Castillo himself. These meetings allowed participants to share additional information and perspective on why the park’s name should or should not be changed.

As with all community engagement processes, these tools and methods are used to identify community consensus when possible. In this case, because complete consensus was not possible, the tools and methods helped the Department identify leanings or preferences as well as dissent and frustrations.

Community Discussions and Survey Results

There were more than 100 participants across the five community meetings, and many of them attended multiple meetings. At each meeting, supporters of the name change proposal voiced their opinions and shared why Castillo should be honored. Many attendees, while expressing a graciousness to the service of Coach Castillo, shared a concern about renaming a space for one person when so many have made positive contributions to both the park and the community. Several community members shared concerns that Coach Castillo already has ballfields named in his honor (one associated with AISD and one within the PARD complex utilized by the Central Austin Youth League), and that additional recognition through this park renaming would be excessive.

The survey tool had 1,575 views with 382 participants. Overall results showed significant support for renaming the park with 79% of respondents supporting renaming and 19% not in support. Recognizing that this is a neighborhood park, when exploring the data of people who identified their homes as being in City Council District 3, the results change: 51% not in favor of renaming and 49% in favor (35 participants identified their home as District 3).

Reading through the 200 comments on the survey, they are overwhelmingly in support of the renaming, identifying many of the great qualities of Castillo and the ways he influenced people’s lives. When exploring the comments from District 3 participants, again, it becomes much more mixed.

Next Steps

According to section [14-1-39](#)(H), after receiving this memorandum, which includes the nomination and endorsement for the renaming, the Parks and Recreation Board shall schedule and conduct a public hearing on renaming Pan American Neighborhood Park. The Board shall make a written recommendation to City Council not later than the 45th day after receiving this memorandum, which will be July 29th. If the board does not meet the deadline, the Board will be deemed to have made no recommendation.

City Council will make the final decision thereafter.

Conclusion

Even those who did not support the renaming of the park acknowledged the tremendous life of service Mr. Castillo has given to the visitors of the park and East Austin. Based on the community feedback and the life accomplishments of Mr. Castillo, I find this application to have appropriate justification, and I thereby submit the nomination and all community comments to the Parks and Recreation Board

In accordance with Austin City Code, renaming the park to the Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park is achieved through approval of the City Council and memorialized via the fabrication of a standard park sign. Alternatively, the Parks and Recreation Board may choose to apply Austin City Code section [14-1-37](#), which allows for a plaque to be placed in the park, recognizing the contributions of Tony Castillo at Pan American Neighborhood Park without renaming the park

Attachments

- A. Application for Renaming PanAm Neighborhood Park
- B. PanAm Renaming Proposal Community Survey
- C. PanAm Renaming Survey Report
- D. PanAm Renaming Proposal Presentation
- E. PanAm Renaming Flyer
- F. Combined Community Meeting Reports and Chat Logs



Application for Naming a Park Facility or Park

Please follow the instructions below when applying for the naming or renaming a facility or property.

1. Complete the application by providing detailed information about the park facility or park to be named or renamed. Please include any supplemental information such as articles, letters of support and signature list with the application. The application must contain documentation of public support for the proposed name. Public support materials must be provided to the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. Please provide payment of the Application Fee, \$365.00 in the form of a cashier's check. Checks should be made out to City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and submitted with the application.
3. A Sign Fabrication Fee in the amount of \$940.00 will apply, should City Council approve the application. A cashier's check should be made out to City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department.
4. Send all submittals to:
Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC), Attn: Christine Chute Canul,
919 W 28th 1/2 St. Austin, TX 78705
5. Questions may be directed to Christine Chute Canul via email:
christine.canul@austintexas.gov or by phone: (512) 974-9515

Current Name of Park Facility or Park:

Pan Am Neighborhood Park

Nominated Name for the Park Facility or Park:

Tony Castillo Pan Am Neighborhood Park

Identify Type of Park Facility to be named or renamed:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pool Complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Significant Building

If other is selected, please specify:

If renaming a Park Facility, it must be initiated by the City Council, City Manager, PARD Director, or Community member(s) / group(s). Please provide documentation stating such initiation and indicate who initiated the renaming:

City Council (Name):

City Manager (Name):

PARD Director (Name):

Community Member(s) / Group(s):

Derek Castillo

If nominating the name of an individual, include a biographical description of nominee (if the nomination is not an individual's name, justification for the suggested name):

*Please see attached biographical document.

Describe how the individual has provided a valuable contribution and creditable service to the park system and the city (include the person's involvement, and connection, if any, to the Park Facility or to the activity for which the park facility will or is being used):

*Please see attached document describing Tony Castillo's life-long involvement and contributions to Pan Am Park.

If the basis of the nomination is a culturally significant contribution, provide a description of the cultural, geographic, or historic significance to the surrounding area or community in which the facility exists:

*Please see attached document describing the culturally significant contribution Tony Castillo has made to Pan Am Park and East Austin.

Is the individual or entity deeding the land to the City for a park facility? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Is the individual or entity contributing the estimated cost of at least 50% of the development of the Park Facility and providing an endowment for the estimated 20-year maintenance costs of the Park Facility as estimated by the PARD director? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Name of requester:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Augustine “Tony” Castillo



65 years of service to
Pan Am and East Austin

A Life of Service and Dedication

There's no doubt about it. Tony Castillo grew up at Pan Am. From an early age, he participated in youth sports programs and spent most of his summers on Pan Am's fields and playgrounds. The park and Zavala Elementary, next door, was not just his "home away from home," it WAS his home. The park's programs were a refuge for Tony. As one of 11 children, it was often easier to live at the park where there was supervision, games, fun and sometimes food! He was there all the time! As proof, when Pan Am celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1971, the Pan Am Advisory Board awarded Tony with the "Outstanding Male Participant" Award.

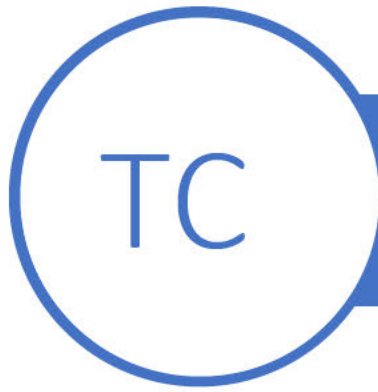
As an adult, Tony gave back to Pan Am in numerous ways. He organized and directed a Christmas toy drive for the underprivileged of East Austin, he coached in youth leagues, and he umpired hundreds of games. He also served on the Pan Am Recreation Center Advisory Board for seven years with four of those years as president. In addition, he served on the Austin Parks and Recreation Department Advisory Board in the mid 1970s. Through all his efforts, Tony's goal was to advocate for the children and residents of East Austin. He wanted to make sure the families in his neighborhood were afforded the same or better recreational opportunities than himself.

In 1961, Tony helped establish the Jokers Athletic Club and their home field was Pan Am. The Jokers would play fastpitch softball at Pan Am. Through many decades, the team would host tournaments featuring fastpitch teams from around the country. Often, Tony would recruit local celebrities to hand out trophies to the winning teams. On several occasions, he brought in Heisman Trophy winner, Earl Campbell and former Texas football coach Darrell Royal to deliver the awards. Seeing these two icons at Pan Am was a treat for the local fans. The tournaments were well attended with hundreds in the bleachers, especially for the championship games.

Perhaps, Tony's greatest contribution to East Austin was his 33 years of teaching and coaching at Johnston High School. His roots there go almost as deep as they do at Pan Am. Johnston was Tony's alma mater and he served as the school's very first senior class president. Later, as an educator, he taught history and government and helped to ignite civic pride and duty in his students. As a coach, he taught young men and women the value of teamwork, perseverance, and hard work. The highlight of his coaching career came in 1986, when his varsity basketball team advanced to the State Semifinals at a sold-out Erwin Center.

Tony was also on the ground floor of desegregation in Austin schools. Tony welcomed kids from affluent neighborhoods to Johnston and helped them assimilate. The thousands of Johnston graduates during that time will tell you, Coach Castillo or "TC," was a popular teacher who knew how to bring kids of all races and different economic backgrounds together.

We believe that this "paints a picture" of Tony's dedication to Pan Am and to East Austin. We strongly believe that because of his decades of community service and his life-long commitment to athletics and recreation, the Pan Am softball field and/or the Pan Am Park/Complex should be renamed in his honor.



TONY CASTILLO

EDUCATOR. COACH. COMMUNITY LEADER.

SUMMARY

A teacher, coach, mentor and community leader, Tony Castillo, is worthy of recognition for his many decades of service to East Austin and to the Pan Am Recreation Center. We recommend the Pan Am softball field and/or complex be re-named in his honor.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

ORGANIZER, DIRECTOR – ANNUAL VIEJITOS (OLD-TIMERS) FASTPITCH SOFTBALL GAMES – PAN AM SOFTBALL FIELD – 2017-PRESENT

FOUNDER, DIRECTOR – PAN AM FASTPITCH SOFTBALL HALL OF HONOR – 2017-PRESENT

CO-FOUNDER, PARTICIPANT – PVC GOLF GROUP – 2013-PRESENT

FOUNDER, ORGANIZER – EAST SIDE MEN'S FASTPITCH LEAGUE – PAN AM SOFTBALL FIELD – 2017-PRESENT

COACH – EAST AUSTIN YOUTH LEAGUE – 2003-2006

COACH – SOUTH AUSTIN LIONS LITTLE LEAGUE – 1990

COMMITTEE – GORDON A. BAILEY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE – 1996-1998

COMMITTEE – DARRELL ROYAL AND WILLIE NELSON "FRIENDS OF EAST AUSTIN" – 1993-1994

- SECURED \$12K FOR EAST AUSTIN YOUTH ASSOCIATION

YOUTH BASKETBALL COACH – YMCA AUSTIN – 1980

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR – PAN AMERICAN NATIONAL YOUTH GOLF CLASSIC – 1985-1986

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN – COORS EDUCATION ASSISTANT GRANT – 1980-1986

- GRANTED SCHOLARSHIP MONEY TO EAST AUSTIN STUDENTS

BOARD MEMBER - PAN AMERICAN RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD –
1974-1981

- SERVED AS PRESIDENT – 1977-1981

BOARD MEMBER – AUSTIN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD – 1977

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINIC- PAN AM
RECREATION CENTER – 1979-1981

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC – PAN AM
RECREATION CENTER – 1979-1982

- RAISED FUNDS TO TAKE PARTICIPANTS TO ASTROS GAME IN
HOUSTON

UMPIRE – GOVALLE PONY YOUTH BASEBALL – 1965-1969

CHARTER MEMBER – EAST AUSTIN OPTIMIST CLUB – 1967-1968

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB BASKETBALL ANNUAL TOURNAMENT
– PAN AM RECREATION CENTER – 1968-1983

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB MEN’S FASTPITCH NATIONAL &
STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS – 1967-1986

DIRECTOR – STATE YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT – PAN AM
RECREATION CENTER – 1963-1968

DIRECTOR – CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE – EAST AUSTIN (PAN AM RECREATION
CENTER) – 1964-1967

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

PAN AMERICAN CENTER ADVISORY BOARD OUTSTANDING MALE
PARTICIPANT – 1948-1971

NATIONAL LATIN AMERICAN SOFTBALL HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEE –
1999

TEXAS FASTPITCH “FATHER OF THE YEAR” – 1991

JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR – 1982

ALL-CENTRAL TEXAS BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR, 3 YEARS

AISD BOYS BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR, 4 YEARS

TEXAS BOYS COACH OF THE YEAR NOMINEE, 1986

EXPERIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER - JOHNSTON & AKINS HIGH SCHOOL - 1960-2004

HEAD COACH, VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL – JOHNSTON HS – 1973-1998

HEAD COACH, VARSITY SOFTBALL – JOHNSTON HS – 1998-2002

- STATE SEMIFINALIST, 1996

ATHLETIC COORDINATOR – JOHNSTON HS – 1994-1995

HEAD COACH , GIRLS BASKETBALL – AKINS HS – 2002-2004

HEAD COACH, SOFTBALL – AKINS HS – 2002-2004

ATHLETIC COORDINATOR – PAN AM RECREATION CENTER – 1964-1967

PLAYGROUND DIRECTOR – METZ, COMAL, GOVALLE, PALM PARKS –
(VARIOUS YEARS, MID 1960S)

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE • 1969 • UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Major: Health and Physical Education

Minor: History

Completed 24 hours towards Master of Education degree

Through the Years



Tony and Louis Murillo coaching youth sports programs at Pan Am in the 1960s.



Top left: Christmas Toy Drive, early 1960s

Bottom left: Pan Am Outstanding Male Participant Award, 1971

Top right: Receiving tournament championship trophy from US Congressman, J.J. "Jake" Pickle, 1960s

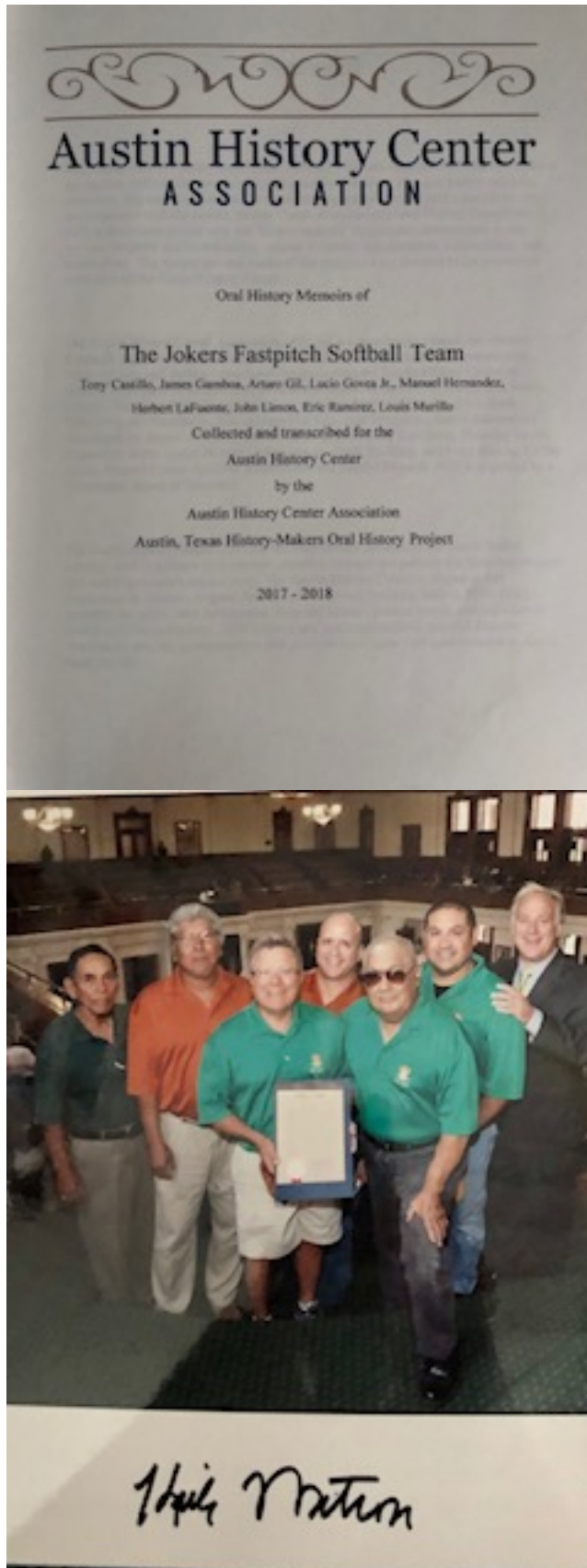


Top left: With Coach Darrell Royal handing out awards after basketball tournament at Pan Am, mid 1970s

Top right: baseball clinic in East Austin, early 1980s. Participants ended the week with a trip to see the Astros in Houston.

Left: Earl Campbell is greeted by fans prior to handing out tournament trophies, late 1970s

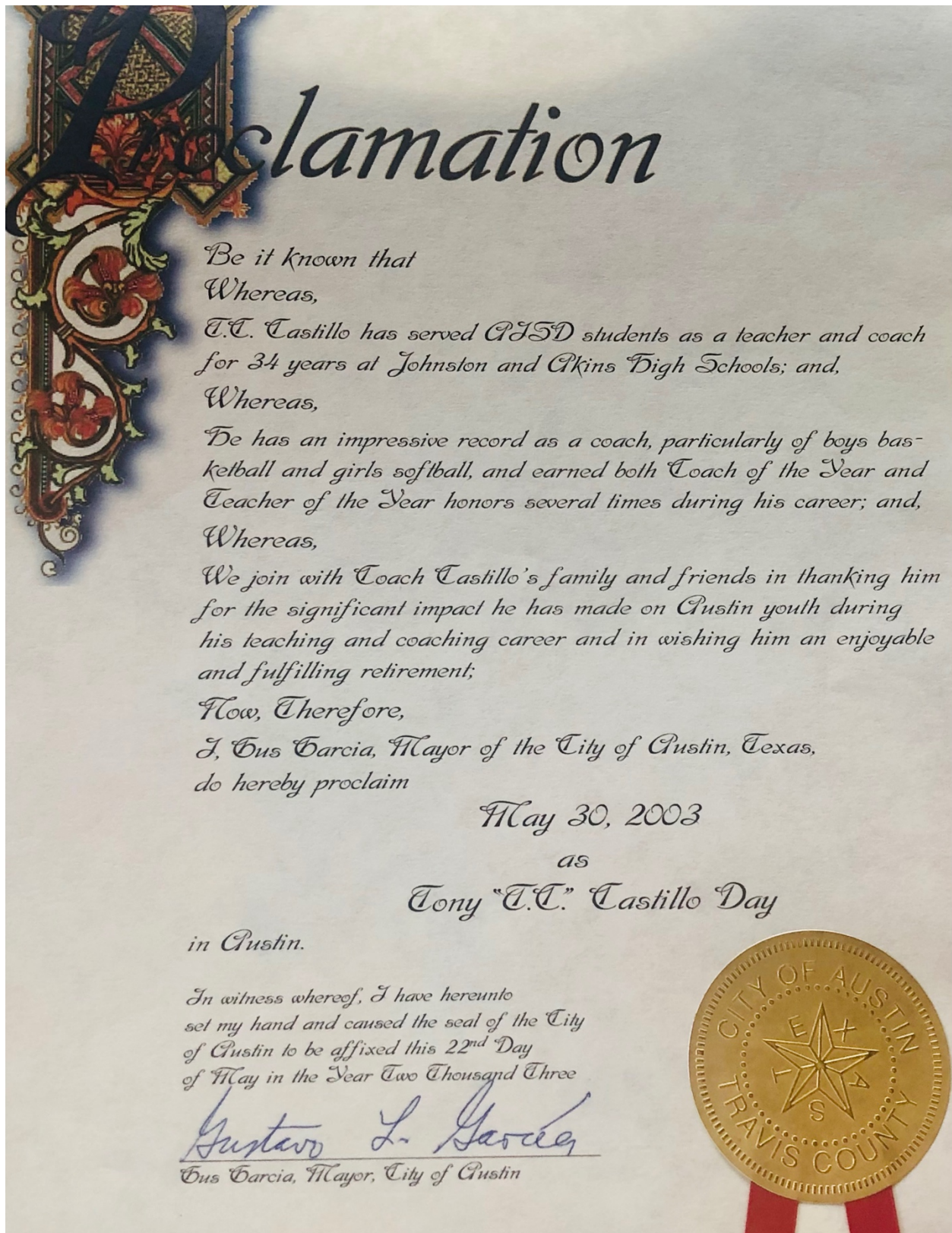
Left: Baseball clinic participants honored on scoreboard at the Houston Astrodome.



Top: Recognition for Jokers fastpitch softball team by the Austin, Texas History-Making Oral History Project, 2018

Bottom: Tony and Jokers recognized at the Texas State Capitol with State Representative, Kirk Watson

Pages 10-12: Tony was honored by the City of Austin and the State Senate





The Senate of The State of Texas

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 988

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Tony "T.C." Castillo, who is retiring from the Austin Independent School District after 34 years of loyal service in the field of education; and

WHEREAS, Tony Castillo is a 1961 graduate of Johnston High School and a 1969 graduate of The University of Texas; he worked for 32 years as a teacher and coach at Johnston High School and for two years at Akins High School; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career as a teacher of geography, government, and American and United States history, T.C. was a dedicated and resourceful educator and earned Teacher of the Year awards for 1981, 1982, 1985, and 2001; and

WHEREAS, He was also named District and Central Texas Coach of the Year on numerous occasions; he led his boys basketball teams to seven district championships and the girls softball team to a 2000 district championship; and

WHEREAS, An active member of his community, T.C. is involved with the East Austin Optimist Club and Friends of East Austin, and he serves on the advisory boards for Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Pan American Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, He is chairman of the Coors Education Grant Committee and serves on the committee for the Gordon A. Bailey Scholarship Fund; he generously gives of his time and energy to coaching in little leagues and youth clinics; and

S.R. No. 988

WHEREAS, He has been married for 41 years to the former Berniece Ruiz, and the couple has two sons, Rodney and Derek, and three grandchildren, Mariana, Xavier, and Jared; and

WHEREAS, T.C. Castillo has been a positive influence on the lives of countless students and has distinguished himself in his profession, and his presence in the Austin Independent School District will be greatly missed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend Tony Castillo for his many contributions to the Austin Independent School District and extend best wishes to him for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos



David Newburn
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 28, 2003.

Latsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

Longalo Barrientos
Member, Texas Senate



Induction of players to the Pan Am Fastpitch Softball Hall of Honor, 2021. Many inductees were honored posthumously and were represented by their families.



Supporters (Partial List)

Fidel Acevedo, President, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC),
(Austin chapter), [REDACTED]

*Honorable Elisabeth Earle, Travis County Judge, [REDACTED]

Bill Koen, Owner, Joe Koen & Son Jewelers, [REDACTED]

Gil Rodriguez, State Executive, American GI Forum of Texas, [REDACTED]

Art Ramirez, Owner, A Vision General Contractors, [REDACTED]

Ernest Nieto, President & Founder, National Hispanic Institute, [REDACTED]

Robert Amaya, Owner, Amaya's Taco Village [REDACTED]

Herb Martinez, Owner, Real Estate Executives of Austin, [REDACTED]

David Negrete, Partner, Negrete & Kolar Architects, [REDACTED]

Diane Negrete, Educator/school administrator

Ruben Ruiz, Owner, Ruiz CPA & Associates, [REDACTED]

Roy Nieto, CEO, SureScore, [REDACTED]

Joey Acuna, Owner, CEVA Logistics, [REDACTED]

Greg Mendoza, Global Employee Relations, Dell, [REDACTED]

Rev. Florencio Rodriguez, Pastor, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, [REDACTED]

Roy Marroquin, Owner, Inspectorroy.com, [REDACTED]

Edward Martinez, [REDACTED]

Herbert Torres, [REDACTED]

Louis Cuevas, [REDACTED]

Rob Abeita, [REDACTED]

Ray Saldana, [REDACTED]

Eric Ramirez, [REDACTED]

Jimmy Limon, [REDACTED]

Juan Garza, [REDACTED]

Joe Carlin, [REDACTED]

David Varela, [REDACTED]

Augustine Garza, 1 [REDACTED]

Jesse Martinez, [REDACTED]

*Letters of recommendation in progress from these individuals



September 12, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Naming a park, school, or other public facility that honors or memorializes the work and contributing services of civic-conscious individuals is always an important means of acknowledging extended community service. It becomes even more relevant when individuals selected for these honors also reflect the history and culture of the community involved. East Austin has its own unique relevance and presence in Austin community life. It also has a strong sense of knowing individuals from the community who through time have influenced and changed the lives of others.

As consideration is given to renaming Pan American Park's softball field, Tony "TC" Castillo should rank among the top candidates for selection. A product of East Austin, his involvement in the community dates back to his teenage years as far back as the 1950's when he was among the founders of the Jokers softball team. He continued his efforts by also organizing a Jokers basketball team that also hosted league tournaments for younger age youth. In addition to sports, TC also played important roles in expanding the community's political voice. His membership in LUCHA was significant in the election of first-time Latino office holders from East Austin that included Richard Moya, John Trevino, and Gonzalo Barrientos.

In his approach of "leading by example," TC completed his studies at the University of Texas, taught in the classrooms of the AISD, and became head coach of the former Johnston High School Rams, leading the team to a historic "Final Four" state tournament appearance at the University of Texas in 1986.

In considering other candidates, there will certainly be those who were successful in business, the political scene or other worthy endeavors. There are few, on the other hand, who took the hand dealt to them in life and not only transformed themselves, but hundreds of others in the process. Re-naming the Pan American softball field and/or the Pan American Park/Complex in honor of Tony Castillo will be a living testimony to his East Austin roots and his life's work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Ernesto Nieto'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'E'.

Ernesto Nieto
President & Founder

JOE KOEN & SON JEWELERS

Your Personal Jeweler Since 1883

611 Congress Ave • 478-2595 • www.joekoenjewelers.com

Ask about our FREE Downtown Parking

September 21, 2021

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing this letter of endorsement for the Pan American Sports and Recreation Complex to be re-named after Coach Tony Castillo.

I met Coach Castillo in 1980 when I was bussed to Johnston High School for my Junior year of school. Immediately, it was easy to see his love and devotion for East Austin, Johnston High, and all of the students (no matter their race) that crossed his path. It was also equally as easy to see the respect that ALL of the students, fellow educators and staff members had for him.

Prior to writing this letter, I wanted to do a little bit of research on Coach Castillo. I'm glad that I did. I am now even MORE IMPRESSED with all that he has done for the entire East Austin Community, to include the people, kids of all ages, the school and the Pan American Complex. Coach Castillo's roots to the Pan Am Complex and East Austin run more true and deep than anyone else that I know. SIXTY FIVE YEARS worth of dedication and devotion. I don't know how that can be topped!

Coach Castillo has touched the lives of countless children and families of East Austin and The Pan American Complex in such a positive and genuine way. He has spent an ENTIRE LIFETIME giving of himself to the Pan Am Complex and East Austin Community. I cannot imagine a better or more deserving person to receive this honor. And with all due respect to any other possible nominees, I cannot imagine the Pan Am Complex could be more honored or proud to have any name associated with it other than that of Tony Castillo.

Sincerely,



Bill Koen III

Bill Koen
Joe Koen & Son Jewelers
611 Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701
512-478-2595
www.JoeKoenJewelers.com



American GI Forum of Texas, Inc.

Serving Veterans and Families Since 1948

State Office

8833 Capitol View Drive • Austin, Texas 78747 • (512) 992-7066 • www.agiftx.com • E-Mail stateoffice@agiftx.com

Cesar R. Ruiz
State Commander

Founded
March 26, 1948

Austin Parks and Recreation Department
Director of Park Services
200 S. Lamar
Suite 1350
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767-1088

To Whom it May Concern:

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter recommending the naming of the Pan Am softball field in honor of Mr. Augustine "Tony" Castillo. As the CEO of the American GI Forum of Texas, Inc. (AGIF), a congressionally chartered veterans organization, I became aware of Mr. Castillo's lifelong community work with the Pan American Recreation Center and the surrounding Hispanic community. As a teacher and a coach, Mr. Castillo has a stellar reputation for his decades of work with young people. He has used his vast knowledge of sports and his solid work ethic to help our youth become better citizens. His professional experience as a coach and educator has made him a consummate professional mentor to many and he has dedicated his career and much of his life to public service.

His work with young Hispanics and other minority youth makes this re-naming a well-deserved honor for Mr. Castillo and the entire East Austin community. I believe it is indeed proper to name a part of the park in his honor.

I am available and happy to discuss any other questions you may have during this process.

Respectfully,

Gilbert Rodriguez, CEO
American GI Forum of Texas, Inc.
gil@agiftx.com

"Education Is Our Freedom and Freedom Should be Everybody's Business"



League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
LULAC Council 4227

September 22, 2021

Subject: Naming Pan Am Park/Complex and/or the Softball field in the Honor of
Augustine (Tony TC) Castillo

To: Austin Parks and Recreation Board

How important is it to retain the history of someone who has continued to be an integral part of the Pan Am Recreation Center and the Austin Latino community? I believe it is very important and we have that opportunity by renaming the Pan Am Softball Field and/or park complex in honor of Tony "TC" Castillo.

We know that Tony is a product of having attained a high level of success at the Pan Am Center. He has intimately been involved in Pan Am throughout his life. First as a young participant, then as a volunteer, an employee and also his many years on the Pan Am Advisory Board, including several years as president. Tony has also served on the Austin LULAC National Education Advisory Board (LNEAC).

This year we were honored to have Tony award the fall scholarships to the participating students from the Austin Independent School District. Over the many years as an activist, I have personally met with leaders here in Austin, I can say without hesitation that Tony is a beacon in the Austin Latino community and is a dedicated leader. Please honor his work and legacy by renaming the Pan Am softball field and/or complex in his honor.

Respectfully Submitted

Fidel Acevedo (LULAC)
Past District XII Director
Council 4227 President
(512) 775-7276

Real Estate Executives of Austin, LLC

2800 South IH 35, Suite 150
Austin, Texas 78704
Direct: (512) 923-2745
Email: herb@hsmartinez.com

September 13, 2021

TO: Austin Parks and Recreation Department – PARD

RE: Naming of Softball field and/or Pan Am Park/Complex

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

I, and on behalf of many of our Friends would like to provide our most enthusiastic support of the naming of the softball field and/or Pan Am Park/Complex in Honor of Augustine "Tony" Castillo, Jr.

If I may, I would like to refer to him as "Tony", as he is affectionately and widely known. Tony grew up in East Austin, attended Allan Jr. High, and was in the first graduating Class of A.S. Johnston Hi School. Coincidentally, Tony attended Zavala Elementary School, which is located adjacent to Pan Am Recreation Center which adjoins the softball field we speak of, to name in his Honor. After his graduation from The University of Texas, Tony went back to his ole Alma Mater as a Teacher and Athletic coach.

I've known Tony almost my entire life. Most recently from our weekly group of golfers who've managed to continue playing. As is with most sports which have surrounded him, he's been instrumental in our group's formation.

One of the many reasons for the naming of the softball field in his name is a fact that he has never forgotten his East Austin roots. He has been instrumental in helping east Austin boys and girls mature into fine, respectable men and women, not only through sports but also by being a prime example of what it is to reach back into the community he grew up in, to help those who still look to him for help and guidance.

I can think of no other name or person, who is as well suited, and deserving of such an Honor. It is a fitting tribute to someone who cares enough to have done so much for our East Austin, especially our youth. We are so proud of Tony.

I strongly support the renaming of the Pan American softball field and/or the Pan American Park/Complex, in Honor of Tony Castillo.

Sincerely,


Herbert C. Martinez, Pres/CEO
Real Estate Executives of Austin, LLC

AUGUSTINE ' TONY ' CASTILLO SOFTBALL FIELD COMPLEX

Having grown up in east Austin, I am reminded of the many opportunities that were afforded us in communities like the Pan American Center which allowed us to unite and participate in organized sports. The Pan American Center softball field was an integral part of the community. Many young men competed in fast pitch softball at this field. Most notably, one of the teams referred to as the Jokers Athletic Club was organized by Tony Castillo, a lifelong resident of east Austin and educator and successful head basketball coach of Johnston High School, and with his leadership it became a tremendous organization that produced generation after generation of young softball players. Tony Castillo was able to take the Joker team beyond Austin into many tournaments throughout the state where they were able to represent Austin and win many tournaments. He played for this team for 37 years. Tony epitomizes a young man's dream of using sports like softball, football and basketball to achieve success. He has given decades of service to this community of the Pan American Recreation center and as a teacher for 30 years at A.S. Johnston HS where he educated thousands of young students in achieving their educational goals. I strongly support the renaming of the Pan American softball field and/or the Pan American Park/complex in honor of Tony Castillo.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Augustine Gonzales". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

September 14, 2021

To P.A.R.D. Board Members and Staff

I am writing in support of naming the Pan American athletic field and/or the Pan Am Park/ Complex in the name of Tony Castillo.

Tony is a well respected long time leader, sponsor of softball and other sports at the Pan Am Center. Having been a witness over several decades of Tony's (affectionately called T. C. by his friends, softball players, and former students) participation and contributions to youth and adults in our community deems recognition.

Tony Castillo has contributed to Little League baseball, coaching high school basketball and girls high school softball. He is the co-founder, participant and coach of a men's softball team known as the Jokers. Tony played many a game at the field over the decades and sponsored many softball tournaments for teams from Austin and other cities in Texas. His reputation as a coach and player is known and recognized by many softball players in Austin and other Texas cities.

Tony should also be recognized for his other contributions to our community for the following:

- Being an AISD product and UT Austin graduate
- Head basketball coach for many years at A.S Johnston H.S. and later girls softball coach at Akins H.S. before retiring from AISD.
- Having served as staff (Activity Leader) at the Oswaldo Cantu Recreation Center and also on the Advisory Board of the center for several years with notables Teresa Long, Edith Royal and former Travis County Commissioner Richard Moya
- Supporter and holding baseball clinics for little league youth at the league fields in East Austin

He continues to support softball and other programs in the East Austin community.

These are but a few of Tony Castillo's contributions to our community that warrant your consideration for naming the softball field and/or Pam Am Park/complex in his name.

Also thank you for your citizenship contributions as board members and staff.

Sincerely,



Arturo R. Gil , Former teammate former PARD lifeguard and playground activity leader and former Pan Am Board member

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming Proposal

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department has received an application for renaming Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park. As outlined by Austin Code of Ordinances sec. 14-1-39, the Department has opened a 90-day period for community comments on the proposed renaming.

The questions below are intended to assess community interest in the renaming of the park. For more information, visit the project webpage: <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/pan-american-neighborhood-park-renaming>.

Please note: The application for renaming the park will not affect the Oswaldo A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center, the Hillside Theater, or any other individual areas, such as the ballfield named after Rosalio "Rabbit" Duran.

Background of Tony Castillo

Coach Augustine "Tony" Castillo is a product of East Austin who served the community at Pan Am Park for 65 years. He attended elementary school at Zavala Elementary School, next to Pan Am Park, before attending Allan Middle School and graduating in the first class at Johnston High School. His involvement in the community dates back to his teenage years in the 1950s when he was among the founders of the Jokers softball team. He continued his efforts by organizing a Jokers basketball team and hosted league tournaments for neighborhood youth. He coached sports at his Alma mater Johnston High School, before moving to Akins High prior to retirement.

In addition to sports, Castillo played important roles in expanding the community's political voice. His membership in LUCHA was significant in the election of first Latino office holders from East Austin that included Richard Moya, John Treviño, and Gonzalo Barrientos.

In his approach of "leading by example," Castillo completed his studies at the University of Texas, taught in the classrooms of Austin ISD, and became head coach of the former Johnston High School Rams, leading the team to a historic "Final Four" state tournament appearance at the University of Texas in 1986.

View the full application here on the project webpage.

Do you support the renaming of Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park?

- ☐ Yes, I support the renaming
- ☐ No, I do not support the renaming
- ☐ No opinion or unsure

Please write any comments about the Pan American Neighborhood Park renaming proposal below.

Demographics

The Austin Parks and Recreation Departments asks for the following information in order to help identify whether we are connecting to our diverse community effectively. We aim to have participants represent the people in the communities we serve. Your responses are optional and are appreciated.

How long have you lived in Austin now or previously? What is your age?

- ☐ I have never lived in Austin.
- ☐ 0 to 5 years
- ☐ 5 to 10 years
- ☐ 10 to 20 years
- ☐ 20 to 30 years
- ☐ More than 30 years

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65-74
- ☐ 75+

What City Council District do you live in?

- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ District 1 (Natasha Harper-Madison)
- ☐ District 2 (Vanessa Fuentes)
- ☐ District 3 (Sabino "Pio" Renteria)
- ☐ District 4 (José "Chito" Vela)
- ☐ District 5 (Ann Kitchen)
- ☐ District 6 (Mackenzie Kelly)
- ☐ District 7 (Leslie Pool)
- ☐ District 8 (Paige Ellis)
- ☐ District 9 (Kathie Tovo)
- ☐ District 10 (Alison Alter)
- ☐ I do not live in Austin

What is your race/ethnicity?

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian or Asian American
- ☐ Black or African-American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latinx
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Race or ethnicity not listed
- ☐ I prefer not to answer
- ☐ Other

Zip Code

What is your annual household income?

- ☐ Less than \$25,000
- ☐ \$25,000 to \$50,000
- ☐ \$50,000 to \$75,000
- ☐ \$75,000 to \$100,000
- ☐ \$100,000 to \$200,000
- ☐ More than \$200,000

What language(s) do you speak at home?

- ☐ Arabic
- ☐ Chinese (Cantonese)
- ☐ Chinese (Mandarin)
- ☐ English
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Vietnamese
- ☐ French
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other

What is your gender?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ I prefer not to answer
- ☐ Identifier not mentioned

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming Proposal Community Survey

Survey open from March 30 through June 5, 2022.

MOVE 

Project Engagement

VIEWS

1,588

PARTICIPANTS

382

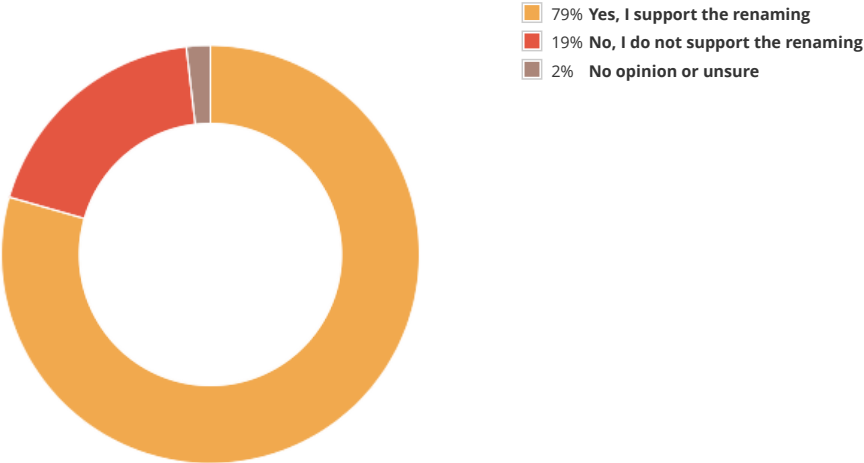
RESPONSES

1,890

COMMENTS


200

* Do you support the renaming of Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park? 

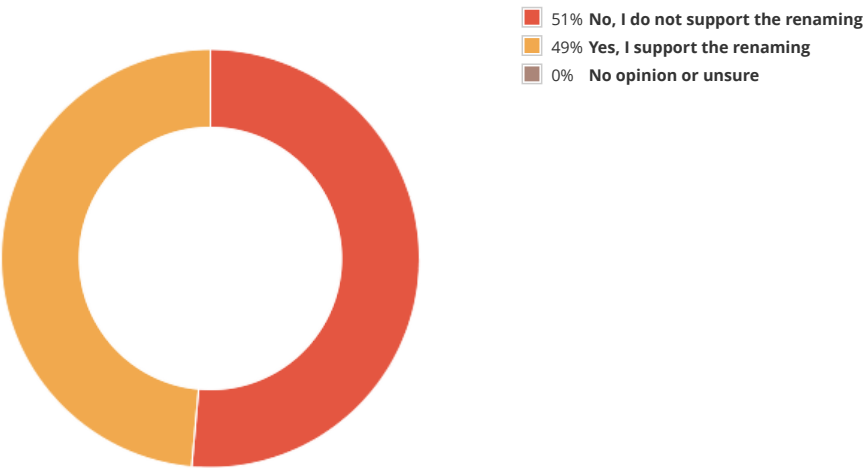


379 respondents

 District 3

Filtered by Participant Segment 

* Do you support the renaming of Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park?



35 respondents

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Please write any comments about the Pan American Neighborhood Park renaming proposal in the section below.

Coach Castillo was my basketball coach at Johnston High to include the 1986 Final Four team. Coach Castillo was the shortest coach I had , but had the biggest personality and leadership ability to lead young men. Coach Castillo took time to write a character reference letter which helped me get into Texas State university. The young and old have been touched by Coach.

one month ago

[👍 9 Agree](#)

Born and raised in east Austin I have experienced the changing demographics. Changing the name to honor Tony Castillo will ensure a legacy that will not change the historic significance of Pan Am. I strongly support the renaming.

one month ago

[👍 8 Agree](#)

Pan-Am neighborhood Park needs to remain the same and not changed. There are many other citizens who worked or volunteered at Pan-AM throughout its History, Lalo Ancira, Janie Lopez, Florentina Chapa Serrano, a community arts and Crafts instructor, Rudy "Sub ", Zapata, Louie Maurilio, Marcelo Tafoya etc . please leave the name the same Pan-AM Neighborhood Park and create a walk of Fame sidewalk with bricks with individuals names on the Park mentioning any and all. Governed by The Oswaldo A.B. Cantu/ Pan-Am Board

one month ago

[👍 5 Agree](#)

Pan Am park: It's a major gathering point for American Mexicans and their families and has been so for decades upon decades. Mr. Tony Castillo himself was raised in the nearby neighborhood and he played at the ballpark there for many years. He taught an adult career at nearby A.S. Johnston High school [Eastside Memorial High school] , where he himself graduated from. His involvement with Pan Am Neighborhood Park is testament to a lifetime unwavering service to his community, as well as to throngs of high school students throughout Austin, Texas. Tony Castillo needs no introductions in East Austin, and he has always been a supportive friend to everyone that he encounters!

one month ago

[👍 5 Agree](#)

Great choice for the community and this would represent and honor an outstanding member of the East Austin area.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo is a living legend in East Austin and the Johnston HS community. Tony is one of the most positive individuals you will ever meet. The children of the East Austin Community who were fortunate to be coached and taught by Tony Castillo over the years, have significantly made an impact with their their time and talent into making East Austin a place they call "Home".

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Mr. Castillo's name would be an honor to this neighborhood.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo is very deserving of this and than some. I have nothing but positive things to speak of him and than some. 100% in agreement.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

When people in our community, give back to our community and make a difference in that same community, they become our hero's. We need to honor more people like Mr. Castillo who do more for the people of our city by leading by example and not just someone who writes a big check, as these are the true hero's we need. I'm very proud to see our city taking these kinds of actions.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

This is long overdue and deserving. Trust me, and listen to a true native Austinites like myself.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

I support the renaming of the park to Tony Castillo. I have known Tony all of my life. I grew up watching him play ball at the park and I still play fastpitch at the field myself. Tony has and continues to support and keep the east side traditions alive. Tony is a product of the east side and he represents it with honor.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

I support the renaming of the park to Tony Castillo. I have known Tony my entire life (61 yrs) and know fully the numerous contributions to the east side of Austin and Pan Am. I grew up at Pan Am as my father Rene Ramirez and Tony Castillo played with the fast pitch team, Austin Jokers, at Pan Am, since 1961. His service to others is impeccable, and his dedication to the community of east Austin is evident through his numerous acts of service towards others. Tony Castillo is lost deserving of this honor. His words, actions and dedication speak for itself.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo is a fine representative of Austin and East Austin !

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Tony is a product of East Austin. He has been a leader of the community and a role model for many people. He demonstrated that you can accomplish whatever goal you have if you spot yourself. He not only attend East Austin schools but also returned to teach and coach at Johnston HS. A rather successful coach. He opened many doors for others to follow, by his success. It would be a wonderful honor for the legacy of an Austin product.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Tony has given a lot of his personal time at the Center. He spent many hours there as a youngster and as an adult He has been very involved with both kids and adult athletics. In 1960 Tony started the Joker Fastpitch Athletic Club which is still going strong to this day. He participated in Basketball programs and Flag Football programs. He coached and umpired kids baseball and basketball programs. He truly has been an inspiration to the young men of the Eastside. There is no one who deserves this honor more than Tony Castillo.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

No! absolutely No!

Honor him in some other wsy. this would set a precedent. and start renaming other things to .

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

I do not agree on the name change. Seven generations of Austinites born and raised in East Austin. I respect Mr. Castillo & his family but I don't agree with the name change. We dont need changes to the Pan American Cantu Park please respect his legacy.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Did you reply the same when they changed the name of the softball field after a bookie and bar owner?

13 days ago

Coach TC is a wonderful person, he always made sure all students felt comfortable and if a student was struggling he would try to help them. He was kind, funny and had a respectful approach to us all.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Mr Castillo has been a big part in our youths lives. This is much deserved.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Y soporte el cambio de nombre. No hay otra persona en este barrio que a sido mad dedicado que el señor Castillo.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

I believe this is the right choice in renaming PanAm Neighborhood Park after Tony Castillo. In my 63 years of living in Austin Tony has been a mentor to myself and many of the Youth that have participated in programs at PanAm.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo has been an example of leadership and community involvement for over 60 years! He is very well respected throughout Austin but hails from the glorious East side! I am honored to have been brought up around a man that I hold in the highest regard!

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

I certainly agree with this proposal! Very well deserved honor!

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

100% support this proposal!

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

This would be a wonderful way to honor Coach Tony Castillo. He is highly respected throughout Austin and had a large, positive impact on hundreds of students.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Highly endorse. It would be a fitting name

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Recognizing diversity in place names is an important and often overlooked part of community building. I was one of Coach Castillo's students and have come to regard his pedagogy as foundational in my own teaching.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

I wholeheartedly agree with this proposal. It is well deserved!

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Coach Tony Castillo was one of my high school teachers at Johnston High School. He is deserving of this honor as he made a difference not only in my life but the lives of all my classmates and all students whose lives he has touched.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo was teaching and coaching at Johnston when I was teaching at Austin High. He always cared about his students and kept a positive attitude with a smile and lots of energy. It is certainly appropriate to rename the Pan American Neighborhood Park for Tony Castillo.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

This honor is well deserved for Tony Castillo. He continues to be a influence in his community.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Mr. Castillo is a man of exceptional character and a fun man to boot. I see him weekly in our golf group and he never ceases to amaze all of us with his dedication, wit and humor. I strongly support that the Park be named in his honor.

one month ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Atta Boy TC! Rams 4Ever

2 months ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Couldn't agree more. Mr Castillo has been a big part in our youths lives. This is much deserved.

2 months ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

As a native Austinite I agree this name change is a well deserved honor and should move forward.

2 months ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Fully support this change!

2 months ago

[👍 4 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo was a wonderful part of my education at Johnston High School. I fully support this effort.

12 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

It couldn't be renamed after an awesome individual, a civic leader, an athlete as in Mr Tony "TC" Castillo!

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

This is a "no brainer", why the opposition! Yes, there are others and maybe their day will come. But, right now in the here and present. it is Mr. Castillo's time. Just as he has given to this community, it is time to give back by acknowledging his service. We can do this, juntos y unidos.

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

Tony has been an advocate to endorse health and well being to our community by providing sports programs to keep us in good health. I played fast pitch at Pan-Am for over 15 years and have personal experience Tony's commitment to the programs the facility has offered. I want to thank everyone for giving the opportunity to consider renaming the facility in Tony's name.

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

Tony has symbolize the community needs. He has been an advocate for the health and well of all who have participated in the all sports program and at the very least be rewarded for his commitment to providing not only the desire of all who have participated in the Pan-Am programs but has also kept it alive. I played fast pitch for over 15 years at Pan-Am and he has been an inspiration throughout my tenure in the sport. I thank each and everyone for the consideration in renaming the facility.

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

This is a positive name change and the recognition is well deserved. My grandfather, Cliff Gustafson, coached in a similar fashion, where the players were put first. In doing so success became a counterpart of the culture. Coach Castillo earned this recognition through his character and his role as a positive mentor for young athletes.

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

I was a student of Coach Castillo's, and he's been a lifetime supporter of the Johnston Rams and the east Austin community. I can think of no better person in this city to be honored by naming a local park after him. Thank you!!

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

As a Hispanic young lady attending Johnston High School, Coach Castillo was more than a great coach he was a mentor and a true leader to his students and to the community he served. He taught everyone to have respect for one another, but most of all to have respect for oneself. It would be an honor to have Pan American Neighborhood Park named after a great coach, teacher, leader and an all around great human being. VOTE yes for the renaming of Pan Am!

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

Well deserved, Tony has been a huge supporter of the youth in East Austin for decades.

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

Mr. Castillo is a stand up person and deserves this!

13 days ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Tony was a great teacher mentor and a wonderful coach and educator.

20 days ago

[!\[\]\(3d8c13c92b853674f749aac6fa869926_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

As JHS Alumni, Coach Castillo is great leader and cares so much for the community and success of all those he mets.

22 days ago

[!\[\]\(fa6f3af6bfa46c5d4a2d362681095beb_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Coach TC is an east side legend who has served his community well. He was my history teacher at Johnston. He was a great teacher as well as an outstanding coach.

23 days ago

[!\[\]\(f95dab70c751fda7d824b8b03650f7aa_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

absolutely agree with this name changing. TC is without a doubt deserving.

24 days ago

[!\[\]\(4688aadfd656ded00cd6bdfae55089a9_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

I went to school during the time Tony Castillo was a coach. He deserves this honor in his remberence.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(2b17f17ebbacc911bb0ff784ab641779_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

TC was amazing coach but a better male role model for young man that didn't have one at home. Honoring him this way would be amazing.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(bcece9a353e60caece619217f5c1ea39_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo was a fabulous teacher, mentor, coach for me as well as the teacher who helped a few of us travel to Europe in 1985. He spoke from the heart, he taught every student like they were one of his kids, and we all felt worthy of such greatness with his tutelage. He created a softball team which I had the pleasure of pitching for in 1984. He is a staple to the East Austin community and the honor of naming the park after him would be known with his history and greatness for generations. I highly recommend the name be changed.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(a05a1b59a958625e01d770867ed2a42e_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo has been a positive example of how we Latinos can excel. I knew him personally from 1979 to 1983. Always positive with his students. Always encouraging us to graduate and beyond. I fully encourage this renaming. I am very happy to know that so many would agree!

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(346f5b9c8222e44e815e44b5dc7c53e5_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

That citizen is an outstanding person and lives and breaths the East Park in Austin, Texas, I can't imagine anyone else more deserving. He lived on the east side and was very proud.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(ade431365d5a245a24c736a8cc4219e3_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

We have known Tony Castillo for many years. He is a man who has done for the East Austin community and has earned any form of recognition that is bestowed on him.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(90ef8a875012d671981c846fc200a6e1_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

It is 100% justifiable to add/rename the park to include Tony Castillo to the Pan American Neighborhood Park. He is the epitome of representing in the most positive and influential way the Mexican-American people of East Austin, hands down. He checks all the bullet points of Credibility, Relevance, Influence, Connection, and Modernization to the proposed renaming of this park. The decision should really be an easy one in favor of those that officialize the process. This forum is a great way to exemplify the support for what needs to go forward and happen. To come from very humble beginnings to the much revered leader and professional he became, but has never turned his back on his people and never forgot where he came from is undeniable. Do the right thing, honor the man, the legend, the icon of East Austin, Tony Castillo. The overwhelming support is there.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(d263f802ae23f8b3c5f2dfdf39bbec6a_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Coach Tony Castillo is well deserving of this honor.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(a1e190900a54bcbc7b01166599c74106_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

He made a difference in many students lives! Such an amazing teacher!

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(666e09182d4cd268646ea700ea60dcdf_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

More than agree to name the park after Mr. Castillo!

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(e3f8612927870f2e0f9f5989e6dd3064_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

I strongly support the name change to Tony Castillo. We need more East Austin hero!

one month ago

[!\[\]\(faf942dc3e59ce8eb64b4ac481eca7e0_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Tony is an incredible husband and father who has proudly given much of his life to the east Austin community. He's made an incredible impact through his teaching/coaching. What a wonderful way to honor him and those ideals.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(4b7a79268f6ba26c1471d4232fffa85a_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

If there ever was a person deserving of this, it is Tony Castillo.

He touched and influenced not only those who were in his classroom or on his team's he coached, but also those who just saw the examples of being a positive role model he displayed every day.

There was not a person who had negative things to say about "TC".

Even to this day, his magic smile is contagiously passed on to others.

It has been my honor to know him.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(19d44b37fb4fa155bf9d60c77a3d3cb2_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

I am totally for naming the park after Mr. Tony Castillo. As a lifelong Austinite, born and raised in East Austin, I have seen first hand the work and outpouring love and care that Mr. Castillo has provided for his beloved East Austin community. The legacy that Tony leaves behind is nothing short of outstanding as a citizen, educator, mentor, and leader.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(23a2e9ddc7bb0ef55393d38b772a848d_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Don't rename a park with such strong legacy. Find another way to honor Mr. Castillo

one month ago

[!\[\]\(206536f97fdb267876a3a10ea42b0254_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Great choice to honor an educator and community volunteer

one month ago

[!\[\]\(c1b924320d9ec7587a1dd427119524d0_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo has earned this Honor of renaming Pan American Neighborhood Park because of his commitment to East Austin and for his Love towards the community.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(dcadc17c064c775919616fcc152162e9_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Honoring him after all he has done for the East Side will not in any way dishonor the other individuals. It's sad to see the negativity of a person who has been helping the East side community all these years. Hoping that this honor is bestowed on Tony!

one month ago

[!\[\]\(8891837fe1b5b26680f2ee7b0ea5318e_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

I totally support the renaming of the park for a man who is admired and respected by hundreds of East Austinites because of his 65+years of caring and community service [and still counting} to our beloved neighborhood. He has impacted the lives of so many with countless hours of service to our youth and adults alike with a real life professionalism that creates a legacy that should be honored right where it first started and still continues today. We are, and or should be, inspired by the example he and some others have set everyday, through sports and education, especially to our young people who are our future.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(99f58673407353e96a019fbca558fd72_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

As long as it doesn't effect the other names on there it's a great honor. I've known Tony for quite some time I think renaming the park in his name is truly and honor. He is and individual with high respect and integrity.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(a870788d6ed9b8fd294b7654a8c8526b_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

I don't agree with the proposal of changing or adding the A name to the Pan American Neighborhood Park. I am an Austinite & I have more that six generations of Austinites! The park is honary a beloved man & his legacy Don't make changes!

one month ago

[!\[\]\(6059a5aa8b4ca7bb793408023d6c6e42_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Yo soporte este cambio de nombre. No hay otra persona en este barrio que se a dedicado mas que el señor Castillo.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(9c2e8d1b5bd77cb5c9f83b7a9cff79fd_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Coach Tony Castillo has been a positive influence to many both in and out of this neighborhood. No one is more deserving.

one month ago

[!\[\]\(f1c5da15572e3e09d343161be98f508d_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

Not sure where the actual name came about Pam American neighbor Park???
I have lived here in Austin over 60 years and knew it as Pan Americans

Mr. Castillo has been an important part of Austin School district for many years. Many young men took his advice when it came to finishing school

2 months ago

[!\[\]\(166772600a13ad0a433053f90fe45649_img.jpg\) 3 Agree](#)

There is no doubt that their are countless people who have contributed to the growth of this park and facility . Tony is one of those folks who has given decades of his time to have both children and adult participation at Pan Am. The additional naming of this facility will not take away the name of A.B. who was a much needed leader in his time. A.B along with Roy Guerrero met so much to us who grew up in the East Side in the fifties and sixties. These great leaders are still remembered for us who grew up in that era. Tony took the reins in his time following their accomplishment's. I feel that A.B. and Roy would not have a problem because Tony continued their great work.

10 days ago

[!\[\]\(f507db636256ac11a5525ef93ec6b8d7_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo has been synonymous with East Austin youth an dimena sports leagues. He organized baseball camps and bus trips to Houston for Astro's games for east Austin kids and deserves this recognition.

10 days ago

[!\[\]\(aceb1790ece33f2eac474d4a9431c6d6_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

This would be a great change.

26 days ago

[!\[\]\(b78e2d0769ad682766c36e077fde3d60_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Castillo was an impressive leader who gave so much of his time.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(4729e517bc6a7cd81c8025b9646574fb_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

Coach always had a smile for everyone at Johnston!
He loved his Community!

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(cbe2492b119e39e02a1dab2af4a4b296_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

For many years Tony has served the youth in our community and is most deserving of this honor.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(5361750c22c4e047a52f4eac1ec2d4cc_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

I was at JHS when coach Castillo was there. I graduated in 1981. He's worthy of this honor!

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(0d5ec72f61334709c3fc9450209b754f_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

For most of us he was our favorite teacher - I remember actually having fun and learning in his class.
1983 - 1984.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(2bae76de5ebbd5c4d7d47162f1673734_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

I very much approve for the naming change of the Pan American Park.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(28f72b996fc97883dfd9d4e8b1b16b4e_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo was an impactful educator and committed to his community. This would be well-deserved and wonderful.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(c15650232aa6660c9deb34f3b82dcb72_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

I support Coach Tony Castillo. He was my history teacher and renaming the event could not go to a better person! He is a great person and given his fair share for the community and deserves this honor! Rams for life! JHS 91'

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(a25a22d88c5882f4a20f36103df86562_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo was not only a great Coach, but also an amazing history teacher! History was not always my favorite subject, but he made it fun, and funny at times.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(0aaea5eb29549a0c507a518cbdd818a0_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

He was a great leader and teacher!

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(aedbb838a7f635b6ebfdf5bdbc3e5572_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo set the example for hundreds of young men and women in East Austin as a coach and a teacher. He inspired students to be better and connected with us on our level—respectfully and in a way that held each of us accountable. I wholeheartedly support the proposal to honor him in this fashion. For me, he will always be TC or Coach and one of the most formative figures in my life.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(5dca7bfbc13dee28f2892b5a008b91ca_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

I was privileged to know Coach Castillo in the late 70's. He is well deserving of this Honor

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(5c9c0083657e3e23e37785bd1c32a518_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

I was born and raised and still live in East Austin and fully support the renaming of the park. I've known TC my whole life, yes since day one. He truly deserves this for all that he has done for our community!!

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(a3a7cedfdf1046b3481312a851ed6b42_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

Tony is very deserving of this recognition. He was my brother Al Mendoza's best friend and they played with the Jokers. He also was teaching at JHS when I retired and got employed in the Counselors office.

27 days ago

[!\[\]\(30f2e2f596b9deb559ba97e60efd198a_img.jpg\) 2 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Cannot think of anyone more deserving than Tony. He grew up at the Pan Am and then as an adult he has invested a lot of his time helping run several programs at the Center.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo cared about the East Community. He never met a stranger, he embraced all those that came to him. He coached, he taught, he counseled so many. Though he may not remember me, I remember him because if who he was, he was real! Thank you Coach for caring for those of us unprivileged youth. We made out just fine. I agree that his name needs to be carried on at this Park.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I support renaming the park in honor of Tony Castillo.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Coach TC was a beloved teacher and coach when I was at Johnston, and remains an admired mentor to so many.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I SUPPORT THE GREAT IDEA TO NAME THIS. I CAME TO KNOW COACH WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN AT JOHNSTON, HE WAS THE FRESHMAN FOOTBALL COACH. AS A SENIOR I HAD HIM FOR CIVICS CLASS. HE HELPED INSTILL THE PATRIATOC DRIVE I HAVE. I SERVED 10 YEARS U.S.ARMY AS A NUCLEAR WEAPONS MAINT SPECIALIST AND A EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL SPECIALIST/SARGENT. CAME HOME AND VOLUNTERED AS A SCOUT LEADER IN EAST AUSTIN AT PAN AM AND ZARAGOZA CENTERS. BUT COACH WAS A GREAT PERSON TO KNOW.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo is well deserving of this honor.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Tony was a role model to all of us who played at the Pan Am. He is a caring and giving person. I totally support this effort. Thank you.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Can not think of anyone more deserving of this honor Coach TC.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo is one of the few educators I remember to this day. He never forgot where he came from and instilled all of us the meaning of community.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

TC is so deserving of this honor.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I first met Coach Castillo at Johnston High School in the 1980's as a student athlete. Simply put, Coach Castillo is one of the best human beings ever to Grace this planet. He taught many of us how to respect one another and to fight for what is right. He has been doing this since his younger days so this is an awesome honor for us to bestow on him! Let's get it done!

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

TC was my history teacher at Johnston High. I watched him affect not only my life, but the lives of everyone he taught. TC is one of the reasons I chose to become an educator. I wanted to change lives the way he has!

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I remember him from schools. I think it's great to change it to his names. He probably doesn't remember me but I sure do remember him and he was awesome.

28 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

It makes sense to name things after people we want to remember in our neighborhoods. I often look up online a name of something to find out more about them.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

He could never do half of what Mr. Cantu ever did.
He helped many who needed a father figure.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I strongly believe in adding Tony Castillo's name.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo is an ambassador of East Austin community.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Naming a local east austin Park after someone you know and care about and admire for his work would be so great! He is a hero to so many, for his love of teaching kids in Austin, his compassion for kids, and passion for life, he is role model for so many of his former students, his dedication to community, family and friends, for all these years makes him an all around great guy to have on your side. Always smiling, and welcoming, TC, Mr. Castillo, Coach, will always be that cool coach from my Johnston High School days that I remember so fondly.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I do not support this stop changing the Eastside

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Coach Tony Castillo has helped with Pan Am for as long as I have been living (53 years). Honoring him would be very appropriate.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

I prefer the park to remain as is.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

HALL OF FAME or WALK OF FAME!

DO NOT ERASE HISTORY: INSTEAD, _ADD_ TO IT !!!

Please allow other future community members to have the opportunity to be recognized!

If you rename this park, are you preparing future generations to rename it for THEIR favorite community member? Just think: if it's renamed this year, it may be renamed in the next/same # of years from now. With every renaming, a piece of history is lost to far-reaching archives (or deleted/edited for content).

Hall of Fames are forever, at least as it is so this far. Plaques/buy-a-brick, etc are historically preserved. I will absolutely know the entire heart of Austin after this vote! Is the current city council supportive of the destructive gentrification and Californication of Austin, or is there anyone left who cares anything about about how Austin used to be?

Whoops, I answered my question, based on what's happened over the past 5 years.

I have no doubt that Austin will rename this park. It's gone downhill since Watson and Leffingwell, and it's made a serious nose-dive since Adler.

I miss Austin. I'm so so sad that you've been destroyed, and bye-bye to yet another piece of it's history in lieu of something that'll ultimately restrict future honorees (or another debate will rise).

Summary/hashtags: short-sighted, disappointing, gentrification, cancel culture, contributor to the death of Austin

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

By renaming the park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park, this IS an opportunity to ADD to history. We name public facilities in honor of those who have made a difference. By changing the name we are honoring a deserving individual who has given decades of his life to the people of East Austin. We are also honoring one of our own.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

No,no, no! Why wasn't he honored by changing Johnston to Tony Castillo?? Or put his name on that new school built across from ACC?? This just another act to remove minorities out of Eastside but having names to distract from the BIG plan!!

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

I do not support the renaming because it would take away from the history of Oswald AB Cantu/Pan American Park. Honor him in a different way.

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

This renaming would NOT change the game of the AB Cantu Recreation Center or the Duran softball field or the Hillside. This would ADD the name of a stalwart of the East Austin community.

one month ago

[1 Agree](#)

Please leave our parks alone, especially with the renaming. We're losing so much of east side community we once knew and loved.

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

Although Coach TC has definitely had a positive impact on the community, he already has two ball fields in the community named after him. In addition, he was asked to share a third named field at Pan Am Park with another individual, which you can see here <https://austintx.new.swagit.com/videos/142366>. Sounds like he turned that opportunity down. I like the Pan American Park name as it already is, don't change it.

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

The naming of two other East Austin entities in Coach Castillo's name reemphasizes his deserving accomplishments.

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

Yes

one month ago [2 Agree](#)

The name AB Cantu should stay

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

This renaming would NOT CHANGE the name of the A B CANTU recreation center. The remaining applies to the park only.

one month ago

[2 Agree](#)

There's a lot of folks from our past growing up in our 02 East Side Austin that could deserve any place known in East Side Austin.

But the "Atomic Bomb" Cantu, was a great man and mentor in my life.

In fact from the original old school of my brothers and myself.

In fact I still think about him often always reaching out to the kids in and around Pan American Recreation Center/playground.

I was blessed to see AB's daughter still working the Boxing Ringside.

Blessing go to all involved.

Still "Buena Vista" at heart AKA Fast Eddie.

one month ago

[1 Agree](#)

Leave original

2 months ago [2 Agree](#)



2 months ago [2 Agree](#)

The park's current name is evocative and historic, and I think we should leave it intact. Let's honor Mr. Castillo in the park with a plaque or statue, but not by renaming the park.

2 months ago

[2 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Stop stop stop renaming parks for people. It's confusing, and problematic. Why can't it just be Pan Am Park. Enough already. Leave the park names alone. Name a field. Put up a marker. Pay for a bench. Leave historic park grounds and large spaces alone.

2 months ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

The land is not the historic part. It is about what is made there, and the people that make that space into something welcoming and safe. Renaming a space to honor the people that made it great is what keeps history and community alive.

2 months ago

[👍 8 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo has been an inspiration to me and many youths that crossed his path. Always available to help direct athletes to their fullest potential and guide them through tuff times. No one better than to represent East Austin Pan American Neighborhood Park renaming.

7 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

I believe Tony Castillo will represent East Austin as it should be. He has given so much to developing East Austin youth His entire life, and deserves this recognition.

7 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Everything he has done for East Austin should speak for itself. He is most deserving of this.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

The field should have really been named for him instead of Rabbit Duran.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

TC is an East Austin icon, he deserves this honor more than anyone I know

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

One of my models as a true leader in our East Austin Community. I knew Tony personally. His love and passion contributed immeasurably towards improving the lives of so many of our young people.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo is very deserving in the name change of Pan Am park in his honor. TC grew up in East Austin and has done an outstanding job in giving back to the community. East Austin has changed. However, change is inevitable in life.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Tony has been a part of Pan American Neighborhood Park for almost as long as it's been open and he has helped support the park as much as anyone...I think it would be a tremendous honor to name the field after Tony Castillo.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

I can think of no other person who is more deserving than Tony Castillo. He went to school next door at Zavala Elementary. Later when the recreation center was built, Tony participated in all than Pan Am had to offer. Even at such a young age, Tony could see the benefit of sports and how it would keep young kids off the street. He went on to Allan Jr. High, then on to graduate in the first Class of A.S. Johnston High School (now known as Eastside Memorial). As a departing graduate of Johnston High, that would not be the last time that Tony would walk the halls. Tony married his high school sweetheart, went to work and together started their family, all while taking on his desire for a college education. Tony attended and graduated from the University of Texas, then decided to go back to his Alma Mater to become a teacher and Coach. Now at Johnston High, Tony was instrumental in helping to mold the lives of many by enlisting them to participate in sports as he himself had done throughout his junior high and high school days. Tony influence and participation would not be limited to his high school. Tony was instrumental in starting and participating in sports at Pan Am recreation center. Even at his senior age, you will find Tony playing softball at Pan Am, continuing to participate in the softball league that he helped found. As someone who was also born and raised in east Austin, I would love to see the naming of the recreation center to include the name of Tony Castillo. It would be a tribute to all the people of east Austin who have lived and worked to see a day, no better than today, to Honor someone who has meant so much to the young people who lived and grew up in East Austin.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

This is a no-brainer. Naming a park after someone who has done so much for the community for so long provides not only recognition, but education and inspiration!

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo has made such a huge impact on the East Austin community. This would be a great way to honor him!

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Pan Am Historically already Named Oswaldo AB Cantu for decades and it's No My name is ElisaRendon Montoya I am Elder and been a leader for the last 45 years Involved and committed many days and nights volunteering in preserving our parks Housing and History in East Austin Our past Leaders would be in full force fighting to preserve our neighborhood and its value and dignity but they died in vain and it is us that still own property and live here to extend and educate the young Generations to come to respect and preserve our Historic Land Mark's already Named .I want to share my legacy to all and my grandchildren this is Why I live here all life.Please All Vote No Mr Castillo was has Two fields Named in his behave in East Austin and for his family show some respect to others deciated leaders that also deserve Land Marker.so I also in agreement with a Walk Hall of Fame Plaques! ANNA Marcial's purporting Thank You Mrs ER MONTOYA AND FSMILY

9 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Tony Castillo is a great role model with strong values and ethics. I strongly support this change.

10 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Great family, and great man who has been a mainstay in the community for many years.

10 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo was an amazing softball coach and teacher! He was the very best at what he did!

11 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

No! Leave Alone Please , show another way to honor him, their alot of ways to do that, Plack,muarl, bench, but leave Oswaldo A.B Cantu Pan American Rec. Center alone , A.B was a great man, helped the community in many ways over the decades leave his legacy alone!

20 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

If the park is to be renamed it should be for a Mexican American woman. As far as I know there is no park in Austin named after a MA woman.

25 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

I would ask COA to add a walk of fame and or statue, plague in honor of Mr. Castillo, including all names of community leaders throughout the years!

27 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

I support the position that renaming this park erases the history of the park over the decades and that another way to honor Mr Castillo's contributions could be made.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Please do not do this and erase us and our history. This is just another insult to our already injured community.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

With all due respect, this does not "erase" any history. Pan Am will remain and its storied history will remain in tact. This is honoring a "son" of East Austin... a man that was born and raised in East Austin... a man who earned his degree at UT and came back to live, work and mold the youth of East Austin. This will "add" to the glorious park we love... Pan Am!

one month ago

[👍 3 Agree](#)

I understand that this would only effect the hillside park and not the other sites or names.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Hello, this would not affect any of the areas of Pan Am. The names of the recreation center, softball field and hillside would remain the same.

27 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Please do not change the name of the park. Leave it as is. Find another way to honor the great contributions of Mr. Castillo. The name Pan Am means a lot to people in the neighborhood!

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

The renaming will not change the name of the Hillside, the Cantu Recreation Center or the Duran softball field. The legacy of Pan Am will remain as it should. We are merely honoring a man for his many decades of service to the many people of East Austin.

one month ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

There are other was to honor him. He has another facility named in his honor, so there is no need to do this facility as well. So many have done a lot of help in the community and it shouldn't be done with the understanding honoring them is necessary. People do those with out expecting recognition at least they should.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

The naming of two other East Austin entities in Coach Castillo's name reemphasizes his deserving accomplishments.

26 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

I do not agree with the renaming,

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

The name should stay as it is. Mr. Castillo's family should create a new space if they want something named in their family members honor. Or possibly on the John Trevino park since he was in office with him at that time. But Pan American should stay as it has always been name and as the community knows it. I agree with the comment below, we change this then it's setting a precedent that we can start renaming everything.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Tony has done great things for the community and no doubt something should be name in his honor but not a fine arts outdoor facility that's belongs to East Austin fine arts department.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Again... please read the PARD information on this. Renaming the park would not change the name of the Pan Am Hillside.

27 days ago

I feel we should honor the historical name of Pan Am and not change or add to it. Adding to the name would dilute its historical significance. I feel it would dishonor Pan Am by changing its historic name.

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

No to the change

one month ago [👍 1 Agree](#)

Pan Am is an Eastside institution. I do not understand why this building would be chisen for a name change. Is it because everything else that was familiar to me

one month ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

The proposed renaming of the park would not change the name of the Cantu Recreation Center, the Duran softball field or the Hillside. Why was it OK to rename the rec center and softball field after deserving East Austinites and not the park? That doesn't make sense. Let's honor Mr. Castillo for all that he has done.

27 days ago

[👍 2 Agree](#)

Pan Am Community Park does not need to be renamed. This park represents so many in the community, many of whom have gone on to hold elected office and be community leaders advocates. If this community wanted the Pan Am Neighborhood Park to be renamed, they would have initiated this process on behalf of the community. Mr Castillo played ball there but so did many others who played instrumental roles in the community. The Pan Am Center Advisory Board has voted and advised City staff it does not believe the name should be changed and cited many compelling reasons to leave the name as is. Not everything needs to be renamed. The Pan Am Neighborhood Park name identifies this community, is it's legacy and is a cornerstone of this community named as it is. I truly believe this neighborhood park does not need to be renamed and should remain Pan American Community Park.

8 days ago

All I remember was Tony coaching at Johnston High School and being a constant part of the Jokers team.

8 days ago

This park has been helped and loved by too many people over the many years of its existence to bear the name of only one. It's better to leave the name as is.

8 days ago

Mr. Castillo already has two other facilities that are named for him. We do. It need a third. =please leave the name of Pan Am park as it is today.

9 days ago

Those that know Tony Castillo absolutely know that he is not a greedy individual. When things are bestowed upon you, you Thank the presenters for the honor you do not say No. The two other fields that are named for Tony Castillo we not PARD & did not go though the park application process. They were not solicited by Tony they were bestowed by Johnston AISD & Eastside Youth Asso. for his many contributions. He is honored to have these fields named after him. The naming of two other East Austin fields in Coach Castillo's name reemphasizes his deserving accomplishments.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Raquel herna

9 days ago

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

No renaming leave it alone Pan Am. Is Historically to our community and all ready has a NAME
OSWALDO AB Cantu PanAm

9 days ago

No

9 days ago

I was born & raised in East Austin as I witnessed so many have left us, some of us are still living here. Its seems so many have forgot we still see East Austin every day when we wake up. It seems as the fueling of wanting to start naming things that already has a historical name already like Pan Am concerns me as well as the public processes. I also respect Mr. Castillo & family he did a great thing just like so many other Community Members others do Not have two fields named after him like Mr. Castillo has. We Eastsiders want to respect & share our stories of Pan Am Park we did not grow up calling it any other name. So many are in Opposition of this Pan Am Park name changed.

10 days ago

Those that know Tony Castillo absolutely know that he is not a greedy individual. When things are bestowed upon you, you Thank the presenters for the honor you do not say No. The two other fields that are named for Tony Castillo we not PARD & did not go though the park application process. They were not solicited by Tony they were bestowed by Johnston AISD & Eastside Youth Asso. for his many contributions. He is honored to have these fields named after him. The naming of two other East Austin fields in Coach Castillo's name reemphasizes his deserving accomplishments.

8 days ago

[👍 1 Agree](#)

Coach Castillo taught my World Geography class at Johnston High School - his is one of the only classes I remember! Coach Castillo has done so much for the community- it is fitting to recognize him in this manner.

10 days ago

Liz Orange

10 days ago

AB Cantu and Tony Castillo contributed their time and efforts to make the East Side a learning sport participation . It bought the community together with both children an adults. They have been recognized individually

10 days ago

Tony is an excellent community supporter and he would be a great person to name the park after!

10 days ago

Highly support the nomination of Mr. Tony TC Castillo.

13 days ago

Pan Am is a well known park where many activities take place. Renaming it after a well known person who people have nothing but good things to talk about. I'm all for it.

13 days ago

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

PAN-AM and A.B CANTU are the history of EASTSIDE, I lived across the street for many years I remember A.B would take us kids to six flags in a greyhound bus every year he also helped out alot in Sports especially in boxing, he almost took my uncle Manual (champ) Navarro to the Olympics in the 60s he lost the last fight and didn't make it, he also helped start Da HILL SIDE which continues to this day,he was also a great cook helping start the Pan-am Thanksgiving dinner and many other Programs to help the kids out, just A.B talkin to some of us helped Us out in are later life...I remember when he got us pool tables man that was great playing pool da first time , he also had tornoment and gave us trophys and for us kids that was great, so please don't Change the name, He did so much in the building of EASTSIDE/PANAM& the KIDz of EASTSIDE

20 days ago

All the things you mentioned about A.B. Cantu is the reason the recreation center was named in his honor. His name on the recreation center WILL NOT CHANGE. Nor will the HILLSIDE, Duran Field. Tony Castillo name will be ADDED to the Pan Am Neighborhood Park ONLY.

19 days ago

I grew up across the street from PAN-AM , All my family new A.B Cantu , he helped out the Community alot from taking us kids to Six flags every year even taking us in a greyhound bus, he also helped many people in sports especially in Boxing(Golden gloves) he actually almost took my uncle Manual (champ) Navarro to the Olympics in the 60s,but he lost the last fight and didn't make it, he also started The Hill Side which continues to this day and The Thanksgiving dinner event& the Halloween party& he got us pool tables also he was their pretty much evey day giving us aKids advice on everything, he was their wen Pan-Am Started and I think it would be sad if the name was changed he did alot for The EASTSIDE #PAN-AM R.I.P A.B

20 days ago

Well deserved

23 days ago

I remember the coach, he always had so much energy, I don't know enough about the issue of renaming or why some are opposed to it. But he was a great teacher.

25 days ago

Please honor Tony Castillo . . . May life bring TC a reflection of the kindness he has shown & shared with his students & community. TC's actions have altered the lives of many young men, still carrying on through the generations. It still makes me smile, remembering him & his infectious presencense & positive attitude; carrying me through my school days.

25 days ago

Tony Castillo is a wonderful example of an East Austinites who has been true to his roots and helped his community all of his life. I think adding his name to the Pan American neighborhood Park would be a fitting memorial and one which could help other young people in the area remember their roots and perhaps be true to them as well.

26 days ago

Coach is one of a kind! Highly recommend this name change!

27 days ago

Coach "TC" happened to be my freshman football coach at ASJHS and he was my world and American History teacher. He's worthy!!!

27 days ago

No more renaming of parks if it can be renamed again in 30 years

28 days ago

I prefer honoring people in other ways than making parks names unnecessarily long. Castillo Park would be better if a change does get voted to occur.

one month ago

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

Tony Castillo has a long history of service to our community and youth especially at the Pan Am Park. His history with the park not only includes working there along side A B Cantu but also serving on the Advisory Board for several years as well as playing many a ball game and sponsoring many a softball tournament over the many years. I have been a witness to Tony's service to Our community since the 1950's and proudly endorse the naming of the park in his name.

one month ago

I attended Johnston H.S. & I witnessed Mr. Castillo's dedication to enriching the student's education in the under served Eastside school. He's done his best to give back to this city.

one month ago

Coach Castillo is an amazing role model.

one month ago

I support

one month ago

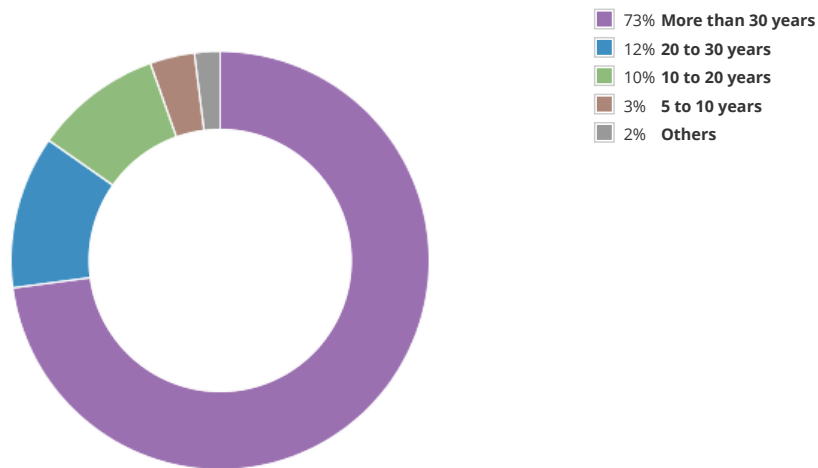
A good choice!

one month ago

The current name of the park is a part of the East Austin community and has been what 4-5 generations of East Austinites have known since 1956-
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph124545/#description-content-main>. It was named by an executive committee through a contest. The City is providing residents with the opportunity to share their opinions, provide additional information or recommendations, and be part of new process. While change is hard, especially when the rec center has been known as Pan Am for 66 years, this is also the opportunity for the Latino community to promote a legacy for a man who has served thousands of residents (children and adults) as an educator, mentor, and civically engaged leader.

2 months ago

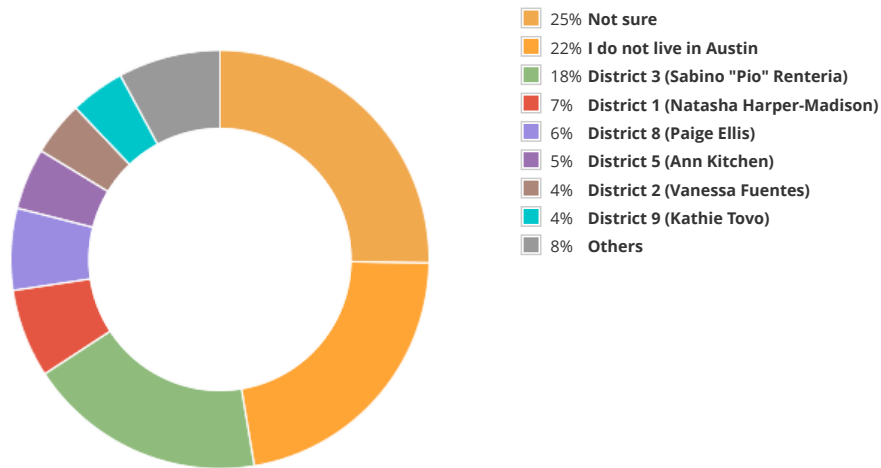
How long have you lived in Austin now or previously?



203 respondents

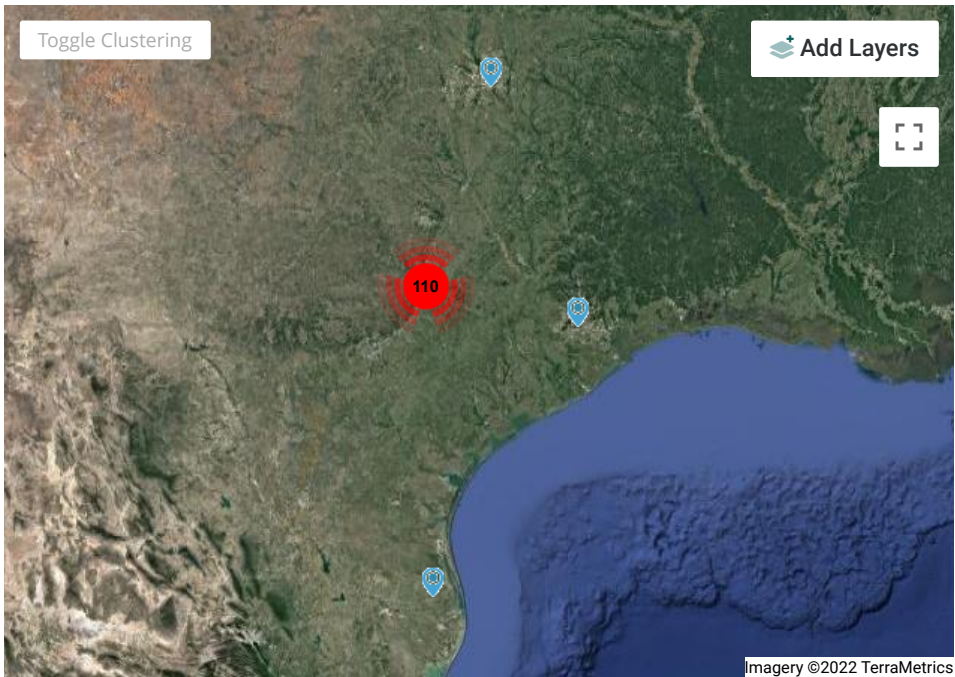
ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

What City Council District do you live in?

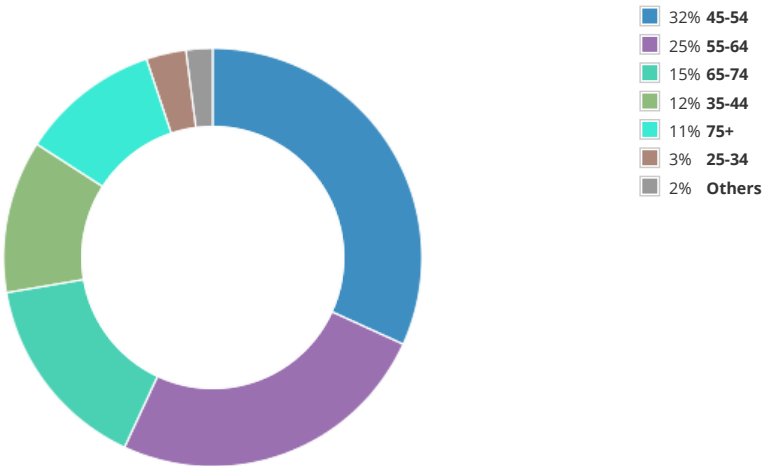


189 respondents

Zip Code

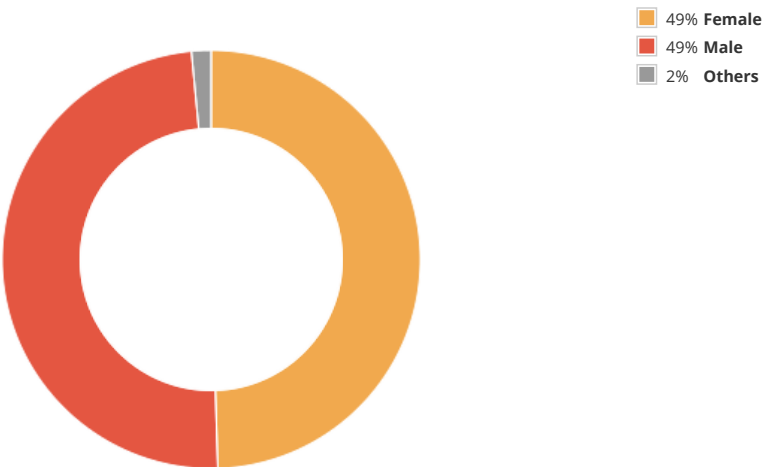


What is your age?



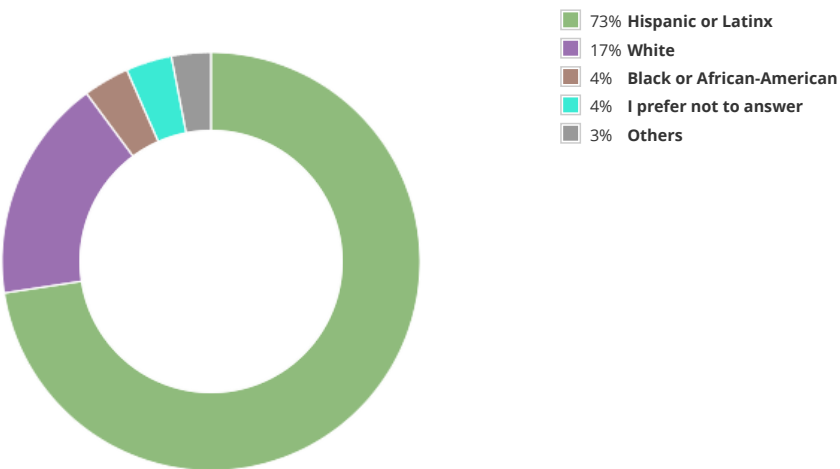
195 respondents

What is your gender?



198 respondents

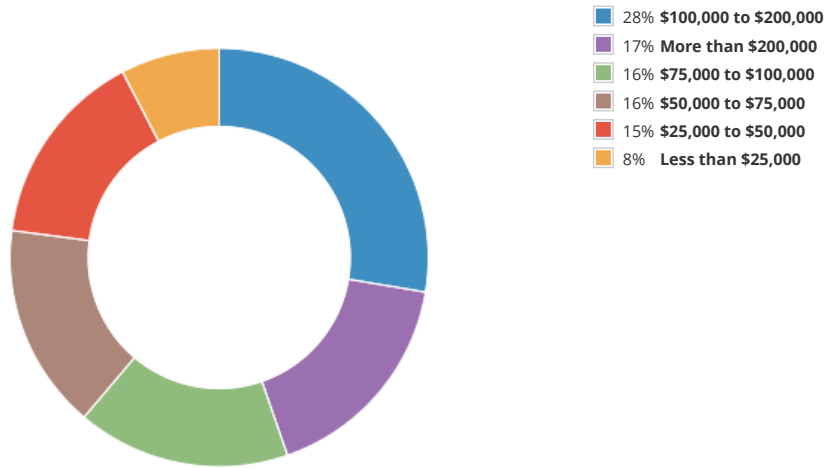
What is your race/ethnicity?



197 respondents

ATTACHMENT C - PANAM RENAMING SURVEY REPORT

What is your annual household income?



170 respondents

What language(s) do you speak at home?

92%	English	169 ✓
35%	Spanish	64 ✓
3%	Other	6 ✓
1%	French	2 ✓
1%	Prefer not to say	2 ✓
1%	Chinese (Cantonese)	1 ✓
1%	Korean	1 ✓
0%	Arabic	0 ✓
0%	Chinese (Mandarin)	0 ✓
0%	Vietnamese	0 ✓

184 Respondents

Community Conversation

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming Proposal

Virtual Meeting Info: Zoom Housekeeping



Participants can join by computer and/or phone: Meeting ID 872 4551 3978



This session is being recorded and will be posted at the conclusion.



Participants will stay muted through presentation.



Comments and questions can be shared throughout the meeting in the chat.



We will have open Q&A time at the end.



“Raise hand” for sharing comments during Q&A session.

Agenda

- Introductions
- Explanation of the renaming process
- Background of Pan American Neighborhood Park
- Background on Augustine “Tony” Castillo
- Small group discussion
- Community sharing



Austin City Code

Section 14-1-39

Derek Castillo initiated the process to rename

Pan American Neighborhood Park
(located at 307 Chicon St.)

to

Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park.



Application for Naming a Park Facility or Park

Please follow the instructions below when applying for the naming or renaming a facility or property.

1. Complete the application by providing detailed information about the park facility or park to be named or renamed. Please include any supplemental information such as articles, letters of support and signature list with the application. The application must contain documentation of public support for the proposed name. Public support materials must be provided to the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. Please provide payment of the Application Fee, \$365.00 in the form of a cashier's check. Checks should be made out to City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and submitted with the application.
3. A Sign Fabrication Fee in the amount of \$940.00 will apply, should City Council approve the application. A cashier's check should be made out to City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department.
4. Send all submittals to:
Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC), Attn: Christine Chute Canul,
919 W 28th 1/2 St. Austin, TX 78705
5. Questions may be directed to Christine Chute Canul via email:
christine.canul@austintexas.gov or by phone: (512) 974-9515

Current Name of Park Facility or Park:

Pan Am Neighborhood Park

Nominated Name for the Park Facility or Park:

Tony Castillo Pan Am Neighborhood Park

Identify Type of Park Facility to be named or renamed:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Pool Complex	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports Complex	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Significant Building

If other is selected, please specify:

90 days

- Initiated by Application and notice to PARB
- Survey and community comments ends June 5

PARB

- Parks and Recreation Board reviews comments
- Public hearing in June; sends recommendation

Council

- City Council receives PARB recommendation
- City Council makes final decision

Pan American Neighborhood Park

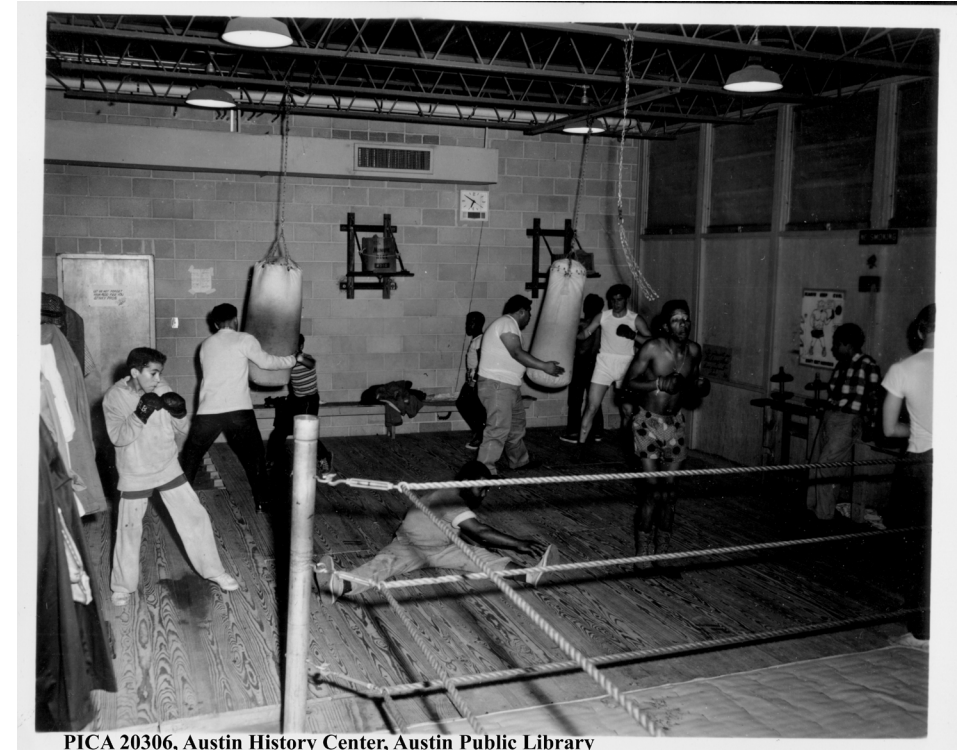
1940: National Youth Association's Latin American Community Center near today's Comal Park in 1940.

1942: PARD began management under Raul "Roy" Guerrero.

1956: Moved to present-day location. Naming competition held, naming Center and surrounding park "Pan American" Recreation Center and Park.

1958: Iconic Hillside Theater added with many notable concerts over the years.

1996: Rec Center added Cantu's name to become Oswaldo A.B. Cantu / Pan American Recreation Center.



PICA 20306, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

Augustine “Tony” Castillo

- Born in East Austin
- Served community for 65 years.
- One of founders of Jokers softball team and basketball team.
- Hosted numerous sports functions and tournaments.
- Longtime AISD educator and coached at Johnston and Akins High Schools.
- Expanded community’s political voice through LUCHA and support of East Austin candidates.



Induction to the Pan Am Fastpitch Softball Hall of Honor, 2021 (photo courtesy of Derek Castillo)

Discussion in small groups

- What additional information would you like people to know about Coach Castillo? What information would you like to know about Coach Castillo?
- What does it mean to “honor the history” of the community?
- How are you deciding whether you want to support the name change or not? What process?

Community Sharing

What would you like to share with the group as a whole?

- What was shared in your group?
- What other questions do you have?
- What additional comments would you like to share?

Next Steps

- Complete feedback form (survey) by June 4, 2022.
- All comments and feedback will be shared with the Parks and Recreation Board (PARB) at their June meeting.
- PARB meeting will also be a public hearing where community members can also speak.
- PARB will then pass on their recommendation (if they have one).
- City Council will make final decision.

A photograph of two young girls in the foreground, smiling at the camera. The girl on the left has curly hair and a small white sticker on her cheek. The girl on the right has long dark hair and glasses. They are wearing dark clothing. In the background, a large crowd of people is gathered on a grassy field, some sitting on blankets, others standing. There are trees and utility poles in the distance. The entire image has a greenish-blue tint.

**Share the opportunity
with friends**

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

PAN AMERICAN NEIGHBORHOOD PARK RENAMING PROPOSAL



The Austin Parks and Recreation Department has received an application for renaming Pan American Neighborhood Park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park. Community comment on this proposed renaming is requested.

This process will not affect the Hillside Theater or Recreation Center.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. For assistance please contact (512) 974-3914 or Relay Texas 7-1-1.

Share your feedback through June 5

publicinput.com/PanAmPark-renaming

<https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/pan-american-neighborhood-park-renaming>



El Departamento de Parques y Recreación

PAN AMERICAN NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PROPUESTA DE CAMBIO DE NOMBRE



El Departamento de Parques y Recreación de Austin ha recibido una solicitud para cambiar el nombre de Pan American Neighborhood Park a Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park. Se solicita el comentario de la comunidad sobre este cambio de nombre propuesto.

Este proceso no afectará al Teatro Hillside o al Centro Recreativo.

La Ciudad de Austin se compromete a cumplir lo establecido en la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA). A solicitud de los interesados, se proveerán modificaciones razonables y acceso equitativo a las comunicaciones. Para obtener ayuda, por favor llame al (512) 974-3914 o al número de Relay Texas, 7-1-1.

Comparta sus comentarios
hasta el 5 de junio

publicinput.com/PanAmPark-esp

<https://www.austintexas.gov/departament/pan-american-neighborhood-park-renaming>



Pan American Park Renaming Proposal Community Meeting Feedback, April 28

The following comments were shared at the April 28 community engagement meeting held online through Zoom.

Attendees:

Jessica Victoria

Anna Pittala

Arturo Gil

Derek Castillo

Al Duarte

Ana Maciel

Hortensia Palomares

Hector Baltierra

Bernice Castillo

Dina Cantu

Maria Rodriguez

Rosalinda Almaguer

Gavino Fernandez

Delano Brown

Bertha Delgado

Elisa Montoya

Ann Rivera

Makalia Reyes

Elisa Summer

Jimmy Vasquez

Please share any questions or comments you have regarding the renaming application or process.

Community members suggested restarting the 90-day period on April 28.

Photo of Tony Castillo in background slide:

Tony Castillo was giving awards to previous players and to families of players who had passed.

Photo was taken in 2021.

Suggested changes to park history slide:

Oswaldo A.B. Cantu/Pan Am Recreation Center

Add Cristo Rey Jamaica – from East Austin

Can the name of Tony Castillo be in a hall of fame or have statues instead of renaming the park in case the recommendation does not pass?

Why is the entire park changing the name?

Does the 90-day window also allow other candidates to be nominated as candidate in the park renaming process?

The Pan Am Park Advisory Board members in attendance stated their opposition towards the renaming proposal and were concerned about not being notified ahead of time.

The Board stated the renaming of the park would dilute and disrespect the community.

The Board stated they were disappointed and sad about the ongoing efforts to rename the park.

The Board stated the park should keep the same name.

Several community members suggested the neighborhood should be notified about the renaming process.

East Town Lake Citizens Neighborhood Association stated their opposition towards park renaming proposal.

One community member suggested people will fight the renaming proposal because they feel like the park is their home.

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming Proposal

Community Meeting #1

April 28, 2022

Zoom Meeting Chat

8:54:17 From PARD Justin Schneider to Waiting Room Participants:

Welcome to the Zoom meeting tonight. We will get started at 7 p.m. Thank you for being here.

18:57:03 From PARD Justin Schneider to Waiting Room Participants:

We'll get the meeting started in a few more minutes. We look forward to talking soon.

19:02:00 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to PARD Justin Schneider(Direct Message):

Do you want me to start recording?

19:27:40 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

How fast will this decision be made for the name change?

19:28:51 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

Is there another park can be rename in his honor?

19:30:19 From Delano Brown to Everyone:

Justin, just a heads up I've had a few community members reach out to me to mention they are having trouble logging in.

19:33:21 From elisa Montoya to Everyone:

Why was the community not notified?

19:34:04 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to PARD Justin Schneider(Direct Message):

<https://www.austintexas.gov/news/notice-application-rename-pan-american-neighborhood-park>

19:36:01 From bertha delgado to Everyone:

Pan Am Hill Side name is Historical is this a proposal to change this? I would like clarification please Parks?

19:39:27 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

We have some folks as well that can not get into the Zoom. Any suggestions?

19:57:59 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

The renaming is for the softball field.

19:58:19 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

The Duran renaming was for the softball field.

19:58:58 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

This was not my father's effort. This was my and several other's effort.

20:00:05 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

Agreed! I strongly & respectfully disagree with the name change.

20:02:18 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

Yes, ask for a extension!

20:03:21 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Thank you Ana.

20:05:55 From PARD Justin Schneider to Everyone:

Order for hands: Elisa, Dina, Anna

20:09:29 From GAVINO FERNANDEZ to Everyone:

pan am hall of fame

20:13:14 From GAVINO FERNANDEZ to Everyone:

pan am hill side is aisd property

20:17:51 From elisa Montoya to Everyone:

Pan Am Hill Side is Historical landmark name

20:20:20 From elisa Montoya to Everyone:

East Town Lake Citizen Neighborhood Association is in opposition of the name change Pan AM Hill Side.

20:28:22 From PARD Justin Schneider to Everyone:

Gavino, I think you are right about Hillside being part of AISD. My mistake grouping it all together.

20:42:27 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

A Survey.....

20:42:38 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to Everyone:

Survey: <https://publicinput.com/PanAmPark-renaming>

20:42:56 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

When did the survey start circulating?

20:43:43 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to Everyone:

March 30, 2022.

20:44:38 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to Everyone:

Notice of Application to Rename Pan American Neighborhood Park:
<https://www.austintexas.gov/news/notice-application-rename-pan-american-neighborhood-park>

20:45:17 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to Everyone:

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming web page:
<https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/pan-american-neighborhood-park-renaming>

20:45:18 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

Who was the survey sent too or how did people qualify to get on the survey list?

20:45:49 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

I would to receive notifications in regards to anything updates that have to with this situation.

20:48:26 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

right, cause I'm on the list & I didn't receive it.

20:48:53 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

I would say like a robot call

20:49:06 From Jessica Victoria to Everyone:

or text messages.....

20:49:56 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Thank you Justin and Aylin.

20:50:00 From PARD Justin Schneider to Everyone:

Justin.Schneider@austintexas.gov

Pan American Park Renaming Proposal Community Meeting Feedback, April 30

The following comments were shared at the April 30 community engagement meeting held at the Oswaldo A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center.

Attendees:

Pete Cortez

Richard Arriola

Augustine Garza

Martin Benavides

Lorraine Sanchez

Rose Marie

Moses SiFuentes

Mary Alice Andrada

Yolanda SiFuentes

Rusty Tello

Gloria A. Guzman

David Vareza

Arturo Gil

Manuel Sepeda

Derek Castillo

Tony Castillo

Beatrice Castillo

Anna Maciel

Gloria Elizondo

Betty Zapata

Roland Zapata

Joe Galan

Louis Cuevas

Please share any questions or comments you have regarding the renaming application or process.

What was Tony's role in the Pan Am board?

- a. Role in the development of the park?
- b. Role in development, growth, expansion in the park and teams?

one month ago

Manuel Cepeda expressed support of the effort and doesn't feel there should be a debate. He feels Tony should be honored because he grew up here and came back.

one month ago

Recognize the community's contribution in the renaming process.

one month ago

Clarify the process of park facility renaming.

one month ago

The local community's input should be a part of the renaming process.

one month ago

Additional information should be about Coach Castillo and the Pan Am Park.

one month ago

Advisory board was not aware of the name change proposal.

one month ago

Need new time frame for the park renaming proposal.

one month ago

History of involvement from the community should be shared in the process.

one month ago

Further input from the community should be gathered in a timely manner.

one month ago

History of demographics and neighborhoods should be shared in the process.

one month ago

Confused why the park should be renamed when the individual person is still alive.

one month ago

Group members at the meeting said the name should be kept as is.

one month ago

Would like the park to remain as is regarding the culture of the community.

one month ago

Wants to maintain and honor the history by not changing the name of the park.

one month ago

A group at the meeting was in support of the name change.

one month ago

Have PARD distinguish the three different areas in the renaming process:

- a. Soft ball field
- b. Hillside
- c. REC center

one month ago

Rabbit and A.B. Cantu should all be honored along with Tony Castillo.

one month ago

Regarding culture, history, and community should not change.

one month ago

Honoring names involved with the park should be a part of the process.

one month ago

One person in the group did not feel there was sufficient time to learn about the engagement process

one month ago

We know Tony because of softball, golf, and Johnston High School. All speak highly of Tony and feel he is worthy of his honor.

one month ago

Why was not enough notice given to the community?

one month ago

One community member stated he supported the park renaming proposal because it was better to rename the park now instead of renaming the park later on with another person's name who is not from the community or same background.

one month ago

Pan American Park Renaming Proposal Community Meeting Feedback, May 19

The following comments were shared at the May 19 community engagement meeting held online through Zoom.

Attendees:

Jerry Quijano

Alex Duarte

Herbert Martinez

Derek Castillo

Bernice Castillo

Pedro Solis

Augustine Garza

Veronica Fernandez

Cynthia Valadez-Mata

Melissa C.

Roy Nieto

Gavino Fernandez

Jesse Martinez

Ray Saldana

Suzanne Piper

Dina Cantu

Christina Rosas

Ana Maciel

Nevaeh Cortez

Adam Gonzales

Please share any questions or comments you have regarding renaming the application or process.

I first heard about Tony Castillo around 1954 when we were both playing little league baseball here in East Austin. The only little league park that was there in the East Austin side. Little did I know we would play on opposite teams, and we did not play on the same team until we got into Johnston High School. I was privileged to play with him and be his teammate in those years. He was the first graduating class at Johnston High School, and I was in the second graduating class. Tony's leadership manifested itself, not only at Johnston High School, but way before at Allen Junior High School, which we both attended around the same time. However, I also want to add that Tony has not only been working in the community and at the schools, but he worked at the Pan Am with contemporary people such as, Oswaldo Cantu. Also, he was there to benefit from the services that Roy Guerrero provided at the original Pan Am Park site on Comal. He also worked with the Pan Am directors such as, Manuel Garza, Jim Coke, and Michael Garza. I had the pleasure, a few of those years, working with Tony at Pan Am and was very aware of all the things he contributed while he was not only employed there but also did volunteer work there. I also want to share with everybody listening that he had the fortune of working with Mr. Bryan Manly, who is a former police chief here in Austin. I was at the swearing in ceremony when Bryan Manly was sworn in as our chief of police. A lot of people, including ourselves, we were behind the line with Tony. And I just remember seeing Bryan Manly hugging Tony and call him by the name that was provided to him by a lot of his students and people who knew him as TC. He gave Tony a hug and said, "TC thank you for coming!" So, he was there. It just shows some of the sentiment that not only the people around the Pan Am that knew he was working there but also some of the sentiment that goes to Tony for the work he did at Johnston High School. – Arturo

26 days ago

I have known Tony Castillo for a long time. I heard about him while I was still in high school back then, and he was coaching the Johnston High School Rams. As a person who has gotten to know Tony Castillo around the Eastside, he is a dedicated person to the Pan Am Recreation Center. He has been a mentor to a lot of young people. I am 67 and he used to mentor me too. I got to know him as a friend, person, and fellow softball player. He and I were both around when fast pitch softball started back up at Pan Am. There is so many people that know him personally and know of him and his dedication and his work ethic and his abilities to work with young people. Even now at Pan Am we recruit young guys, and I say we because him and I are big on trying to bring in people, to try to play fast pitch softball. Renaming the park after Tony Castillo would be a big, big, big thing for the Eastside. Things have changed a lot in Eastside, gentrification is an example of what is going on there now, that is why I moved out. Quite frankly, it has gotten expensive to live in the Eastside. A lot of people don't know this, but my family used to own the area that is now called Fiesta Gardens. The way things are, you know, technically, it was taken from us. So, to honor someone like Tony by putting his name on Pan Am field... I learned how to play softball and baseball because of him. – Ray Saldana

26 days ago

Can you reiterate what will be renamed in the park? There is a lot of misconception of what will be renamed.

26 days ago

Could someone please clarify if there are other PARD facilities named for Mr. Tony Castillo?

26 days ago

Is the window open for other candidates to be nominated in renaming the park? What is the deadline for other candidate names to be submitted?

26 days ago

Is the Roy Velazquez Complex property of Austin?

26 days ago

The Pan American Advisory Board opposes the renaming of the neighborhood park for many reasons. We think Tony Castillo has done a tremendous job at Pan Am all the time and efforts he's put into our children and our families; I applaud him for that. But we have at Pan Am, so many people to thank for all the contributions and all the hard work that has made Pan Am for what it is today. For example, Roy Guerrero, Lalo Campos, Jose Jaime Garcia, David Capuccino. I could name a hundred names of all the people we could recognize, all of them I think we should. And one way of doing that is to have a wall of fame to put all these people's names on there. We have Manuel Donley and Ruben Ramos, musicians who have actually played on the Hill. We have people that have contributed like Richard Moya, Gonzalo Barrientos, Rocky Medrano, we have so many people that have contributed to Pan Am. I just want to make sure that we identify all of them. All of them. Because this Pan Am was not just honored by one person by what they have done for Pan Am. Or another way of making sure that we get everyone recognized is by having bricks laid of everyone's name. There is so many names that we can recognize all over Pan Am. On the sidewalks, on the stage. I mean, we can do so many things. I am not against having Tony's name on the wall or the sidewalk, I just think we need to recognize everyone that has been there for Pan Am. I just want you to think about that because there are just too many people. I think that what City Council has done as far as allowing different names to rename centers and so forth has just put a big divide in our community. A big divide. I don't feel that is the right thing to do. Because we all, all these people are important. Everyone in our community is important. We are here to serve, and I am sure that everyone that has shared with Pan Am their time and efforts they all think about the families. They all think about our children, they all think about our neighborhood. Which you cannot even recognize Pan Am anymore because of gentrification. I ask that you think about what we can do in a greater way to really, really place a history down so that we won't be forgotten at all by this city and the barrio. If we have to do a sidewalk all the way to the capitol with names of people that have served Pan Am, lets do it. But I think we need to recognize everyone that has contributed to this amazing recreation center that serves families who cannot afford with Hillside, who cannot afford \$200, \$100, \$600 tickets to go see a band play. Think about it. For the first time we are actually getting funding from the City of Austin to put on Hillside. For our 60th anniversary, that was the first time that all the efforts the advisory board has done to make sure that we bring our families together to enjoy each other and the community, we raised all that money all these years. Thank God to our community partners, but the advisory board does nothing by itself. We are about community and that's what we want to continue to do and to make sure that all our families can come together and recognize those who have helped us till where we are today. – Ana Maciel

26 days ago

I went to Martin Junior High and Johnston High School during Bussie times in the mid-80s. there was a Bussie initiative and Johnston was such a great place to go to because it truly represented massive levels of diversity from East Austin, Northwest Hills, West Austin. It was a great place, and without doubt, TC was one of the pillars. When I heard about the proposal, he was my basketball coach and more than my basketball coach he was a mentor to me. This is a gentleman who in East Austin was the first one who got a lot of girls to play softball. He was constantly working and highly involved in the athletic community. There is so many amazing people out there. The challenge is that you take all those people and you put everybody up at a certain level you are watering everything down. Richard Moya already has a thing named after him. Gonzalo Barrientos is stellar and well known. In this specific instance, someone who was involved with sports his entire life and contributed to the community through the ways he knew how which was sports and mentorship and life coaching in a lot of places; he had more than enough conversations with me to get myself together. I owe him a lot which is why Brian, who was in my graduating class, he is in support of renaming Pan Am. To me, renaming the Pan Am Park to Tony Castillo Pan Am Park gives this park the opportunity to build core values, not just a generic name, but a name that you can actually build a personality around. It is not just happening here in Austin; it is happening all around the country where everybody is going through the process of renaming things. Lastly, I would also like to say, as a Hispanic, I do not want to believe that we do not have role models. I disagree with that. I think we have amazing role models. We just don't do a good enough job at highlighting those role models and who they are and promoting their core values and what they have done. To me, this is a no brainer, there is a great leader who has actively been involved in the East Side of Austin for 50-60 years. Let's give a face to that leader and get his name out there and his contributions so we are setting the tone for the next generation of young people coming after him. – Roy Nieto

26 days ago

I am like Roy. I have not been here all my entire life, but I have been here for 20 plus years. Frankly, I would like to echo what Ana just said. It really is about keeping together the multitude of people that have influenced the area. My time being here, I mean I have had those interactions with Gonzalo Barrientos, and I appreciate that. I have had interactions with several people and have been introduced to him by my better half and her family. The truth is, there are so many impactful people that have influenced the lives of East Side people. In general, I think that should be kept within the culture because what's also true is gentrification. Its accurate, very, very real and it is purging out the stories and pushing out those that knew the essence of the East Side. Frankly, we need to start doing something. Not only this one little park or this other monument, but we also need to start doing this as a collective with everyone where we help preserve our history to whatever involvement you have been part of it. But singling out, not to mention also already having things named after you, I mean at some point it starts becoming hubris. So however much he has given to the community, how many times should he be recognized. – Pedro Solis

26 days ago

I am a former music commissioner for District 3 there in the neighborhood. I am born in raised in East Austin just blocks away Second and Navasota and my family is from Austin as well, fourth generation. I am also on the Pan Am Advisory Board and I have a long history with the park. Just providing community service and as a younger child or kid I remember the field and the guys that were playing and the Jokers and things. I just wanted to give my input today. First and foremost, I do believe TC is a community leader and he has done a great job in just keeping things going there and supporting the community in East Austin. I am curious about understanding the grand plan because from what I am aware, and we've discussed today, there are other fields and locations with Mr. Castillo's name. I will echo Ana and I think that there's a lot of worthy people not so much liking the idea of renaming the park in general at all because of history and memories that we have as children. What's next for the Castillo family or what makes this so special to complete what they are doing? If they can share with us maybe what the plan is and what is after the park. Because there's already centers named. That is my question. Again, I oppose the idea of renaming the park so soon. – Alex Duarte

26 days ago

Alex, thanks for your comments. You asked what is next. There is nothing next. I will be honest, and I know you were part of the process for getting Mr. Duran's name on the softball field. I think with that experience you would understand how important it is to honor individuals who have contributed greatly to the community. I think there is no doubt, no one has said a bad word about my father and what he has done for the community. There is nothing next. I mean, frankly, I'll be honest we thought he deserved his name on the softball field but so did Mr. Duran. Mr. Duran's name was given to the city and its past and it is Duran Field. But, when you look at the whole entity of the park, my dad worked on the softball fields, he worked on the playground, he worked in the recreation center. He's all over the park he had boots on the ground so to speak. He did not give money, but he was also the president of the Pan Am Board for a while. I mean he's been in a lot of facets of the community and of Pan Am Park. One of the things I wanted to talk about as well is, Pedro had mentioned we need to help preserve history. In my opinion, when we talk about history we talk about individuals. We talk about folks who have made an impact in the community. I do not think there is anybody in the community who has made the most impact than my father partly because and mainly because he helped educate folks men and women at Johnston High School. Young men at Pan Am throughout the years. When you mold minds, you create history. I don't want anybody to forget about that that is why the family and myself decided to move forward with this. We have gotten a lot of support there is a lot of folks who want to see this happen. I will reiterate too that if my dad's name is put forward and it does pass and it is the Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park, the Pan Am name is still there. The history is still there the memories many of us have will not go away they are still there. What we are doing is adding to history. We are adding two words: Tony Castillo. So that when folks drive by, and their kids say who is Tony Castillo, there will be a place online that they can find out that information, maybe the parents know that answer. Same way with AB Cantu, so that is why we do it. We honor people because of their work and their service to the community and we also honor them to preserve history. – Derek Castillo

26 days ago

I would like to make a couple of comments on the last two items on the discussion in the small groups slide. To me the history is already set at Pan Am. I grew up and I still own property across the street. To me, it is very, very personal that this does not change and that it remains the same. How are you deciding whether you want to support the name or not? The way I am deciding is that I think that Pan Am Hillside Park or whatever needs to remain. That's the only thing that legitimate remains out there is Pan Am. They have renamed through other properties and I hope people that are wanting to do this understand that those of us that still live in the barrio, that did not leave, we did not run from the barrio that you know we feel that this is a kind of like a disrespect of not even coming to us and asking the neighborhood association. I am president of Barrio Unido Neighborhood Association. That is why in talking to people in the community and getting feedback I have already emailed Council and I am going to be following up that is why I asked you the deadline to submit another name for this facility to entertain the process. But the other thing that I am going to be doing as a name is what the neighborhood has suggested and that is what I am going to fully start creating, a walk of fame. A walk of fame where we'll have bricks all over in or around the park where we will be able to honor all these people that are being mentioned that have contributed to Pan Am. The other thing that steps in here, again, I grew up and I know who lived, comes and goes to Pan Am every day because I lived there. There are no women you already don't talk about no women. There were a lot of women that participated and contributed to Pan Am. Ms. Janie Lopez and Nicki Estrada. This does not even include women to be honored and recognized for their contributions to Pan Am. That is why I am opposed to this. I think it's already been mentioned, a walk of fame will be more appropriate to be able to honor more people that have come through the community and the barrio and that are no longer with us and that were volunteers. When I was working with parks, that is one thing I always regretted is that we would always honor and give gratitude to employees. I said wait a minute you get a paycheck every 2 weeks, you can't tell me just because you work you are contributing and honoring. No. That is my personal opinion, but I will be submitting that proposal, and I don't know if it's in the process of a name change or not, but the walk of fame to be able to recognize many other people that come and continue to participate in Pan Am. That is a recommendation from Barrio Unido Neighborhood Association. – Gavino Fernandez

26 days ago

I just want to clarify. There was outreach to the Pan Am Board previously for this, so this is not out of the blue that this came up. There were phone calls made to let some folks on the board know that this is what we were pursuing. It happened. Gavino, that is why we have this process so the public can make comments and that's what we are doing. It's happening. Second of all, my dad was employed by Pan Am, I want to say a little bit in his 20's for 1 or 2 years, but that is the only paycheck he got from the city of Austin and from Pan Am. The rest was as Gavino mentioning, he was a volunteer. And he has volunteered many hours at the softball field to promote fast pitch softball. This is a chance to honor a super volunteer in my estimation. – Derek Castillo

26 days ago

I just want to verify and to make sure with Derek. Let's set this straight. The first time I heard from TC is when he also wanted the baseball field named in his name. That's the first time that I heard from Tony. He had gone to the Parks and Recreation Board to hear him and his voice to why it should be named after his name as well as the Duran family. The Duran family was awarded that decision. The next time I heard from Tony is when he called me, and I told Tony that because he wanted me to support him, and why I am saying this, is because I don't support anyone with anything that has to do with PARD. – Ana Maciel

26 days ago

I just wanted to give my comments and my perspective. I do oppose the name change for Pan Am Park. I am born and raised Austinite and I lived here most of my life. My family grew up on Santa Rita and my father attended Johnston High School and he was also part of the first graduating class. I think based on the information that I have read and heard. First of all, I am so impressed with the contribution of Mr. Tony Castillo and I think that they are incredible and I don't pretend to debate the merits of those contributions, and I don't necessarily think this conversation should be about the merit of the person, I think it should be about where is the right place to honor that person. And from what I have heard, and I can only rely on the information that was shared here, that there are already two other locations, where they are PARD or wherever they are, there is already two other locations that honor this person's contributions. And I feel like adding a third would be a bit excessive and I think that I agree with some of the other comments that there are so many people who have contributed and continue to contribute to the success and the community engagement that exists at Pan Am today. For that reason, I feel like we should not be naming a third facility after the same person. I think that it also excludes others that have made so many large contributions. If other facilities have already been named and honored for that person I respect them, and like I said, all of the contributions that Mr. Castillo has made are incredible but it's not really about the merit of the person it's about where should we honor that. And it sounds like they have already been honored. I would go back to echo Mr. Duarte's question about what's next. So why would there be only three why shouldn't there be four or five facilities named after the same person. I just don't think it's the right message to the community to have multiple facilities named after the same person. Based on just conversations from the neighborhood and things that I've read online I think there is quite a lot of opposition to the name change. – Veronica

26 days ago

Just a question for the Castillo family, again, I don't know Mr. Castillo very well. I don't know him at all, but I have read, and I have heard a lot and I am sure that everything that's been said is exactly in line with what he's done, and I know that he's a very admired person. Not to keep a conversation just going on and on, but I just would like to know, since there are other parks named after him how would they feel if those parks were to be renamed after someone else the way that they're asking for Pan Am to be renamed. It's just a question and I don't think the intent would be to... I think someone mentioned before, to water down like what he's done, but you know, again I just think that you know like how many more parks would have to be named after him. – Christina Rosas

26 days ago

Pan Am is the heart of East Austin for many that live there. Especially the families and children who utilize our facility, especially those in low-income housing facilities that are around us like Chalmers and Santa Rita. And Tony has taught many of these children as well. I can't say enough about Tony, but the important thing is that for the first time Pan Am has been recognized because when I went to the history center, they had no information about Pan Am as far as just maybe 6-7 pictures when we celebrated our 60th anniversary. Pan Am brings people in the community together and people know it as Pan Am. We never use the name neighborhood park, but like I said, Pan Am is a central point for many of these children. I think we should keep some kind of dignity and make sure we do other things to honor other people at Pan Am. I agree with that 100%. I think everyone should think about how Pan Am has impacted other families. Everyone that has talked probably has been impacted by Pan Am in some way or the other and we continue to other people at Hillside and Thanksgiving Dinners. Let's just make sure that we do what is right for the community and honor everyone who needs to be honored for making Pan Am what it is today. – Ana Maciel

26 days ago

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming Proposal

Community Meeting #3

May 19, 2022

Zoom Meeting Chat

18:49:03 From PARD Community Engagement to Waiting Room Participants:

Thank you for joining us this evening. We will open up the meeting right at 7 and plan to start at a few minutes after.

18:52:31 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Waiting Room Participants:

Thank you for joining us this evening. We will open up the meeting right at 7 and plan to start at a few minutes after.

18:56:34 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Waiting Room Participants:

Thank you for joining us this evening. We will open up the meeting right at 7 and plan to start at a few minutes after.

19:11:29 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Everyone:

Project webpage: <https://www.austintexas.gov/panampark-proposal>

19:15:20 From Verónica Rosas Fernández to Everyone:

Could someone please clarify if there are other PARD facilities named for Mr. Tony Castillo?

19:18:28 From Verónica Rosas Fernández to Everyone:

So to clarify, there are currently two other facilities already named for Mr. Tony Castillo?

19:23:12 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Everyone:

Veronica, I believe that is correct. One is a Parks and Recreation field. The other may not be.

19:23:55 From Verónica Rosas Fernández to Everyone:

Thank you. Is the proposal to re-name the baseball field? Or the park?

19:24:07 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Everyone:

It is for the park.

19:24:11 From GAVINO FERNANDEZ to Everyone:

can we set a time limit so others may speak

19:24:29 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

@justin. Are you sure about that? I believe one is a little league field. (Does PARD own those fields)? The other is a field at the high school

19:25:10 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Either way, I know the little league field was not a city-owned field back when the various fields were named after supporters.

19:25:34 From Melissa C to Everyone:

I was born & raised on St Rita St & went to Zavala & I'd never heard Mr Castillo's name btw

19:25:35 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

@justin Let's ask Ray to go on mute

19:26:27 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Everyone:

Thank you, Derek. I can find the answers after the meeting. My apologies for not knowing that more fully ahead of time.

19:35:55 From Derek Castillo to PARD Justin Schneider (he/him)(Direct Message):

We have some folks with their hands up. With respect to Ana, she has had a lot of time to speak.

19:44:37 From Ana MACIEL to Everyone:

My comments are for those individuals in our community who have given their contributions to Pan Am. Preserving PAN AM history and musicians is very important to our community.

19:46:42 From Melissa C to Everyone:

Is he still alive?

19:47:32 From Roy Nieto to Everyone:

Haha! Yes, TC is still alive. He is still coaching and mentoring kids today.

19:48:11 From Melissa C to Everyone:

Thanks Roy Nieto

19:51:39 From Melissa C to Everyone:

No problema! I also questioned what you were referring to when you said TC. I too chuckled when I realized who it was, my 1st guess was Taco Cabana! 🤔

19:51:57 From arturo gil to Everyone:

We can still rename it and add the walk of fame.

19:52:25 From Ana MACIEL to Everyone:

THANK YOU GAVINO FOR INCLUDING WOMEN TO BE INCLUDED

19:53:09 From Nevaeh Cortez to Everyone:

THANK YOUUU GAVINO 🙌🙌🙌

19:54:58 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Let's clarify.... it is a "softball" field

20:00:42 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Happy to answer that

20:01:37 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Thanks Justin. That is correct.

20:04:21 From PARD Justin Schneider (he/him) to Everyone:

Survey for collecting your support or not and additional comments:

<https://publicinput.com/PanAmPark-renaming;español> <https://publicinput.com/PanAmPark-esp>

20:05:49 From PARD Aylin Ortiz to Everyone:

Project Web-Page: <https://www.austintexas.gov/panampark-proposal>

20:06:09 From Derek Castillo to Everyone:

Thank you Justin and Aylin.

20:06:26 From arturo gil to Everyone:

thank you

20:06:44 From Verónica Rosas Fernández to Everyone:

Thank you

20:06:45 From Augustine Garza to Everyone:

thanks

Pan American Park Renaming Proposal

Community Meeting Feedback, June 2

The following comments were shared at the June 2 community engagement meeting held online through Zoom.

Attendee name (if provided)

Adam Gonzales

Gavino Fernandez

Ana Maciel

Derek Castillo

Lanny Ledesma

Lorraine Sanchez

Bernice Castillo

Roy Nieto

Hector Baltierra

Herb Torres

Bertha Delgado

Elisa Montoya

Mary Alice Andrada

JoAnn Tamez

Please share any questions or comments you have regarding renaming the application or process.

Bertha Delgado "We have had a lot of community members voice out – on social media – on zoom, it was not the best – I did not get a notification about this Parks meeting"

"I really think this process has divided our community"

"I played softball at Pan Am, I believe that there are so many great leaders that still need to be recognized"

"There have already been sites named after Mr Castillo"

"My question was: are we going to be renaming 4,5 different parks names after people?"

"How many are named after one person?"

"So many people have left East Austin – but what about the people that are left from East Austin?"

"I am in opposition due to the massive complaints we have received in our community"

12 days ago

Elisa Montoya – "I am a landowner in East Austin – I am also a neighborhood organizer and have been working with ppl – 5th generation of Edward Rendon Sr – "We all know it as Oswaldo – He fought for many years – his family has also worked to preserve

"Mr Castillo we knew him –

"As a land owner – I am totally against changing the park name – Mr Castillo has already had the opportunity to be historically named"

12 days ago

Lanny Ledesma – 6 generation Austinite – grew up 21 east 2nd street – Santa maria area family – "When I think of east Austin I think of many things – my family first, the east side & Tony after that" "I've known Tony my whole life "When I think of Tony I think of him as fun, passionate and as a local hero" "It will give the younger students an opportunity to ask where they come from, what they're doing"

12 days ago

ADAM GONZALEZ –

Owner of Adam's Canopy Services

(22:19) "I was born and raised in Austin and I've been playing fast pitch since I was the age of 18, for over 40 years"

Relation to Tony Castillo – involvement in fastpitch, played for Austin Jokers

(24:04) "Over the past 8 years, I've been able to get more information and knowledge of Tony, who he was, what he represented to the community"

(24:50) "As Roy just mentioned, over the past few decades, other people started getting involved. AB was a legend, he will always be a legend, you can never substitute that name for another.

(25:00) "But as generations passed, it is now time to pass the torch to someone else that was just as much knowledgeable, reputable, and gave back to the community as much as he, and that is Mr. Tony Castillo"

(25:20) "I think it's time to actually name the park in someone else's honor who has given back just as much. I'm speaking in behalf of Tony Castillo and I think it'll be ideal to rename the park"

12 days ago

Roy Nieto (13:40) –

Relation to Tony Castillo “TC” as his former basketball coach, BACK IN THE MID 80S

Relation to Ernesto Nieto, Santos Ernesto Park in Houston

TC – One of the founding members of the Jokers

“TC even back in the day already at a state level, specifically in the Hispanic community, was already someone who was a ‘mover and shaker’

“My dad actually founded Lucha, and when he did that, the first thing he did was call TC to say hey lets get involved AND LETS HELP in East Austin people running for office in Austin

“They supported – Gonzalo Barrientos, Richard Moya, Gus Garcia – some really prominent individuals”

“So for 50 years, he has been highly involved in East Austin.

“Specifically at Pan American – Organizing baseball tournaments”

“He was one of the first to organize women’s fast pitch softball when Hispanic females didn’t have a place to play”

(16:16) “And the reason my grandparents knew him from Houston, was because my grandparents were doing the same thing in Houston. So Pan American Park became a staple PLACE where they would used to play, and TC organized it all which was really really cool”

(17:12) “When I think about Pan American as a park that represents basketball or softball, there is not an individual in East Austin who has done more to contribute to sports than Tony Castillo”

“Hands down Tony Castillo is like the Mount Freakin’ Rushmore of East Austin in sports”

“That’s why to name a park after him, to me makes 100 percent sense, because that’s what we do in Austin”

(18:02) “You can tell a story around a person, you can build values around a person”

“I played basketball under TC – My senior year in 1996, I went to Johnston when there was bussing – But TC, very strategically my senior year when we went to the final four, he placed the starting lineup – we had two people who were from the local neighborhood in East Austin, we had me who came from South Austin, Cedrick who came from West Austin and Jeff who came from Northwest Hills – “When I talked to TC later, I found that was intentional – due to the racial strikes in Austin –

“He built a team where no matter where you were in Austin, you had someone to root for. “And when we made it to the final four, we broke all attendance records – “That’s reflective of who TC was = “A great human being with thousands of hours of volunteerism at Pan American”

(19:29) “And when I hear people say Who is TC? I go, who is this person that scares me as an Austinite – Because my concern is that we’re going to lose the story of the people that built East Austin”

(19:44) “And while I can appreciate the name and the history of Pan American, it is an historic place” “I think we can do it more justice and more opportunity to commemorate it by building a person and personality around it.” “I can fundraise around that, I can market, I can have core values, and that’s a big deal”

(20:05) “So, to me, TC is a no brainer and the number one person in East Austin who has brought sports and equity and opportunity to people”

12 days ago

"This means a lot to me because this is my community park."

President of the Oswaldo AB Cantu Pan American Recreation Center

"Pan Am is more than just a recreation center for our community – It is a place for family and friends to come together"

"It's important even more now, due to the gentrification in our community"

"As the advisory board, we've had to raise money on our own. Up to now, the City has assisted us in putting the hillside part of it for the past 4 years" "But for the past 60 years, we did not get not one penny from the City of Austin for our bands to play at Pan Am." (08.35)

"I just want to make sure that everyone who is here tonight remembers that this is our community park and our mural is a great example of what we represent. We have a history"

12 days ago

Gabino Fernandez – "I am also a long term native Austinite – across from Pan American Park"

"Barrio Neighborhood Association is opposed to renaming Neighborhood park – I just want to share with you all that for those who haven't been in the "barrio" recently –

"This process isn't about the candidate – it's about the East Austin community"

"Every time I look around, there are things changing" "We are a poor community – we don't have the money to promote a name with that money – 400 dollars for new name submission"

12 days ago

Derek Castillo (46:17)

"Just a couple of clarifications on the other two entities named after my father -

"For some background, in 1994 the East Austin Youth Associations, which was where those little league fields were - They were in dire needs of funds to keep things going. So, my father and a couple of other individuals got together and raised about \$12,000."

(46:42)"My dad was also apart of the Willie Nelson Friends of East Austin fund and helped raise money to help the fields keep going, and to keep the kids playing"

"And so after that, the East Austin Youth Association decided to honor and express their gratitude to my father and several others - there were about 4 fields named after, and my father was one of those, so that's the background on that one"

(47:02) "For the Johnston HS Baseball field, that was named after my father May 2000. The athletic department at Johnston HS and the student body, initiated the effort to name the baseball field after my father"

"They also named the softball field after Coach Montreal who was a legendary coach there as well

"Again, those were not solicited, but bestowed upon my father for his hard work at Johnston High School and in the neighborhood"

"I just want to reiterate, this is not about taking any culture, this is not about taking any history. This is about ADDING history"

"If it goes through, the park will be called the Tony Castillo Pan American Park. The Pan American name will stay"

12 days ago

(49:50) Anna Maciel

"There cannot be a disconnect when there comes to community, Kimberly"

"This conversation about naming this park Tony Castillo, is a community decision.

It should not be PARD's"

"I want to make sure that happens, because you have a lot of different opinions here"

"There's just so many people we need to recognize"

"I can't thank enough Tony Castillo and the work he has done for our kids, or families, for everyone he coached at Johnston. I can't say enough about you Tony or to the Castillo family"

"I just want to make sure that everyone understands that we have 2 low income centers that are on each side of PAN AM -

"This whole conversation is not about me - it is about pan am" - "it is about so many people that have contributed to make this center what it is today"

"And I hope we can respect all those other people that we need to include"

12 days ago

Pan American Neighborhood Park Renaming Proposal

Community Meeting #4

June 2, 2022

Zoom Meeting Chat

00:54:33 bertha delgado: Can we clarify if the field at Pan Am was the application to start and the it was changed to the park? I think so many are confused on this question? Has a new application been filed for this Park.

01:01:11 bertha delgado: Can we clarify a question that many community members have brought to out, does Tony Castillo has two softball fields honored in his name? We believe in East Austin. The first one is Velsaquez Field & Johnston High School. Is this legal to give another parks field or park ? How many are allowed per person?

01:02:26 bertha delgado: Can I please get these questions clarified! Thank you City of Ausitn Parks Department

01:06:41 Suzanne Piper: Yes a separate application was submitted for the naming of the park

01:09:40 Suzanne Piper: For clarification, the application for renaming is for the Pan American Neighborhood Park. The Recreation Center will continue to have the name A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center

01:10:25 Lanny Ledesma: that seems to be a big part of the miss understanding from what I'm seeing

01:15:40 bertha delgado: Thank you everyone

01:17:29 bertha delgado: I have to log off to attended another meeting Thank you so much I will see you all Saturday!

01:28:08 Suzanne Piper: kimberly.mcneeley@austintexas.gov

01:29:25 PARD Daniella Castillo: Pan American Park Re-naming Survey
<https://publicinput.com/PanAmPark-renaming>

01:29:43 PARD Daniella Castillo: <https://www.austintexas.gov/panampark-proposal>

01:30:23 Derek Castillo: Thanks Aylin and Daniella!

01:30:32 PARD Daniella Castillo: In-Person Community Meeting
Saturday, June 4, 2022, 10:30 a.m. (changed meeting date)
A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center
2100 East 3rd St., Austin, TX 78702

Pan American Park Renaming Proposal

Community Meeting Feedback, June 4

The following comments were shared at the June 4 community engagement meeting held at the Oswaldo A.B. Cantu Pan American Recreation Center.

Attendees:

Tony Castillo

JoAnn Estrada

Adam Gonzales

Leonard Davila

Derek Castillo

Jane Rivera

Lorraine Sanchez

Hortensia Palomares

Augustine Garza

Roy Nieto

Pablo Nieto

Louis Cuevas

Gloria Tejana

Lucy Estrada

Bernice Castillo

Don Estrada

Benny Estrada

Cynthia Valadez

Gil Rodriguez

Mary Alice Andres

Gloria Valadez

R Tello

Oswaldo Guerrero

Gilbert Rivera

Marcos de Leon

Montse Nieto

Alma Valdez

Raul Valdez

Herb Torres

Bertha Delgado

Teresa Alba

Please share any questions or comments you have regarding renaming the application or process.

Kimberly McNeeley needs to be held accountable for the gentrification of the community and parks. We've been disrespected by every official when we bring our concerns to them.

9 days ago

The mural painted by Raul Valdez on the stage -- Mother Earth breaking the chains -- is our history.

9 days ago

You can't divide the different aspects of the space: park, recreation center, theater, school, neighborhood. You have to take in everything. Naming each individual aspect doesn't honor the way it is viewed or used.

9 days ago

Preservation Austin has identified space as place to be honored as of March 2022.

9 days ago

Why is a plaque as a way of honoring person not an option on the application? This was also prescribed by PARB.

9 days ago

This park was named through a competitive process and should not be able to be renamed. PARB created policy preventing this.

9 days ago

We've all contributed [to this park]. This is a process that is slapping the community in the face. Whatever we can do to honor all the people in this park who have contributed is what we should do.

9 days ago

Where is the director? Where is our City Council representative? Where is our Parks Board representative? Why aren't they here?

9 days ago

The Parks Department is good at hearing, but they don't listen. I'll ask, "Is this a done deal?" And they say, "No, no." But when it is finished, they haven't listened to us at all.

9 days ago

Understand the fact that we are being insulted every day.

9 days ago

We are proposing a wall of fame to honor all of those who have contributed. The Parks Department needs to make sure that happens.

9 days ago

We have an opportunity today to honor somebody who gave back to the community. If we wait until everything is perfect and it's the perfect opportunity, then we will just keep waiting. We should take this opportunity now to honor Tony Castillo and our history.

9 days ago

What steps will follow if a another candidate's application is submitted to rename the park within this current 90 day period? Will this extend the renaming process? Can the application fee be reconsidered to reduce the amount?

10 days ago

Why is the survey available to be viewed and answered by the entire city? The survey should only be available for people living in District 3.

10 days ago

In order to move forward with the process we have to have the decisionmakers present at these meetings.

10 days ago

The history of the park and community should be expanded. We need to look at history as a whole when thinking about renaming the park.

10 days ago

Only so any parks exist in the Eastern crescent of Austin. Does naming multiple parks in the community after the same person lead to creating inequity of the people? Please give other people an opportunity to have a park renamed after them. We have a division here.

10 days ago

For the first time after 60 years we (Pan Am) received money from PARD. I said, "we get to pay musicians!" We have to educate the community on what's going on because they don't know what's going on.

10 days ago

The name of the park should not be changed. If it is changed it should be changed to someone else's name. People should be united more instead of divided. That's why I don't support the name change.

10 days ago

Who decides the fee for a park facility renaming application?

10 days ago

The people we have mentioned that deserve to be honored should be in our books. How many people are here that not to mentioned? The history of the park and the meetings that are being held to rename it should be documented and become a part of our curriculum.

10 days ago

Mr. Castillo deserves a monument or statue. We don't want this to be a dividing issue. It already it, but there should be a monument here at Pan Am.

10 days ago

This park was renamed to Pan American Park. What is not understood that it already happened? Our policies put in paper are ignored. This should count towards it. Small pieces from the community that make the big picture.

10 days ago

What does Pan American mean? Don't erase what was here before.

10 days ago

I've known Tony Castillo for many years and he deserve a plaque. TC is a great man and A.B. was also a man.

10 days ago

What additional information would you like people to know about Coach Castillo? What information would you like to know about Coach Castillo?

We would like a monument for Castillo! Pan Am is named historically!

9 days ago

I'd like to know what did Mr. Castillo do for the kids who came to Pan Am.

9 days ago

- continues to volunteer at Pan Am (Fastpitch Softball Hall of Fame)
- served on Pan Am board, was preident, and PARD Board
- born and raised in E. Austin. Went to UT and came back to teach/coach in E. Austin

9 days ago

None

9 days ago

What does it mean to "honor the history" of the community?

Knowing where we come from

9 days ago

Keep names that are historical! Don't change our names in East Austin!

9 days ago

I am very proud of where I grew up and I want to keep the history of how I know Pan Am. I played at Pan Am every summer and have wonderful memories it probably saved my life and helped make me the person I am today.

9 days ago

To permanently honor accomplishments and service to the community--this is an opportunity to do just that--renaming park to Tony Castillo Pan American Neighborhood Park.

9 days ago

Need to be respected.

9 days ago

How are you deciding whether you want to support the name change or not? What process?

Do not want name change!

9 days ago

We need to preserve the history legacy of Pan Am! We do not support this renaming. He has two softball fields!

9 days ago

Not wanting the name change. We can't erase the past and history.

9 days ago

History and service (Tony has done that for this community)

9 days ago

I cannot support the naming of Tony Castillo Park. Thank you.

9 days ago
