

## **Staff Report to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission**

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

**FROM:** Don Andrews, Project Manager  
Clark County Public Works

**DATE:** July 27, 2011

**SUBJECT:** **Changing the name of East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park to “Kelley Meadows Neighborhood Park”**

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### **Executive Summary**

As part of the public process for East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park, conducted in early 2011, neighbors were invited to suggest and vote upon a new name for the park. Of the 36 names suggested, 23 were approved by staff to put up for a vote. Naming the park “Kelley Meadows Neighborhood Park” received the most support from neighbors.

The name was suggested in memory of Herman and Odelsa Kelley who owned property north of the park, where they raised a family and grazed cattle starting in the late 1940s until their deaths in the early 2000s.

### **Background**

East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park is located west end NE 69th St. (8100-8300 block), just west of Par Lane next to the Green Meadows Golf Course in the Green Meadows neighborhood. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission approved the conceptual plan for this park in June 2010. Final design, permitting and construction are currently on hold, pending availability of funding.

“East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park” is a placeholder name used by staff to identify the property. This park naming process was completed before the current park naming policy was approved by the Commission, and is consistent with the terms of the previous policy. Neighbors were asked to suggest new names for the park as part of the park’s public involvement process. Neighbors suggested 36 different names for the park. Thirteen of these names were removed by staff from consideration because they did not meet Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation’s park naming policy requirements.

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*We create community through people, parks, programs and partnerships.*



The voting results on the remaining 23 names were as follows:

Total number of votes cast: 86

Kelley Meadows Neighborhood Park	68
Green Meadows Neighborhood Park	11
East Green Meadows Neighborhood Park	2
Goose Hollow Neighborhood Park	2
Blue Heron Neighborhood Park	1
NE 63 <sup>rd</sup> Street Neighborhood Park	1
The Meadows Neighborhood Park	1

The remaining 16 names all received zero votes.

After the public vote, staff was contacted by Herman Kelley’s son, Patrick Kelley, who lives in Vancouver. He provided additional information about his parents and stated that the family is very supportive of the proposed park name.

### **Herman and Odelsa Kelley**

Herman Kelley was originally from Illinois and Odelsa was from Oklahoma. They met and married in Bremerton, Washington in 1944, while Herman was serving in World War II. After the war, the young couple moved to Clark County in 1948 and purchased a large piece of on the northwest corner of what is now NE 69<sup>th</sup> Street and Meadows Drive. They lived on the property for nearly 60 years, where they raised cattle and two sons, Patrick and Michael. In the late 1970s, they sold most of their property to the golf course, but continued to live in the family home on Meadows Drive until their deaths. Herman and Odelsa passed away in 2010 and 2003, respectively. Many neighbors remember the family (and their cows) fondly.

### **Budget/Financial Impacts**

Park name signs are included in the construction budget. As long as the name is changed before these signs are installed during construction, there will be no impacts to the program budget.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the name of East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park be changed to “Kelley Meadows Neighborhood Park.”



## Action Requested

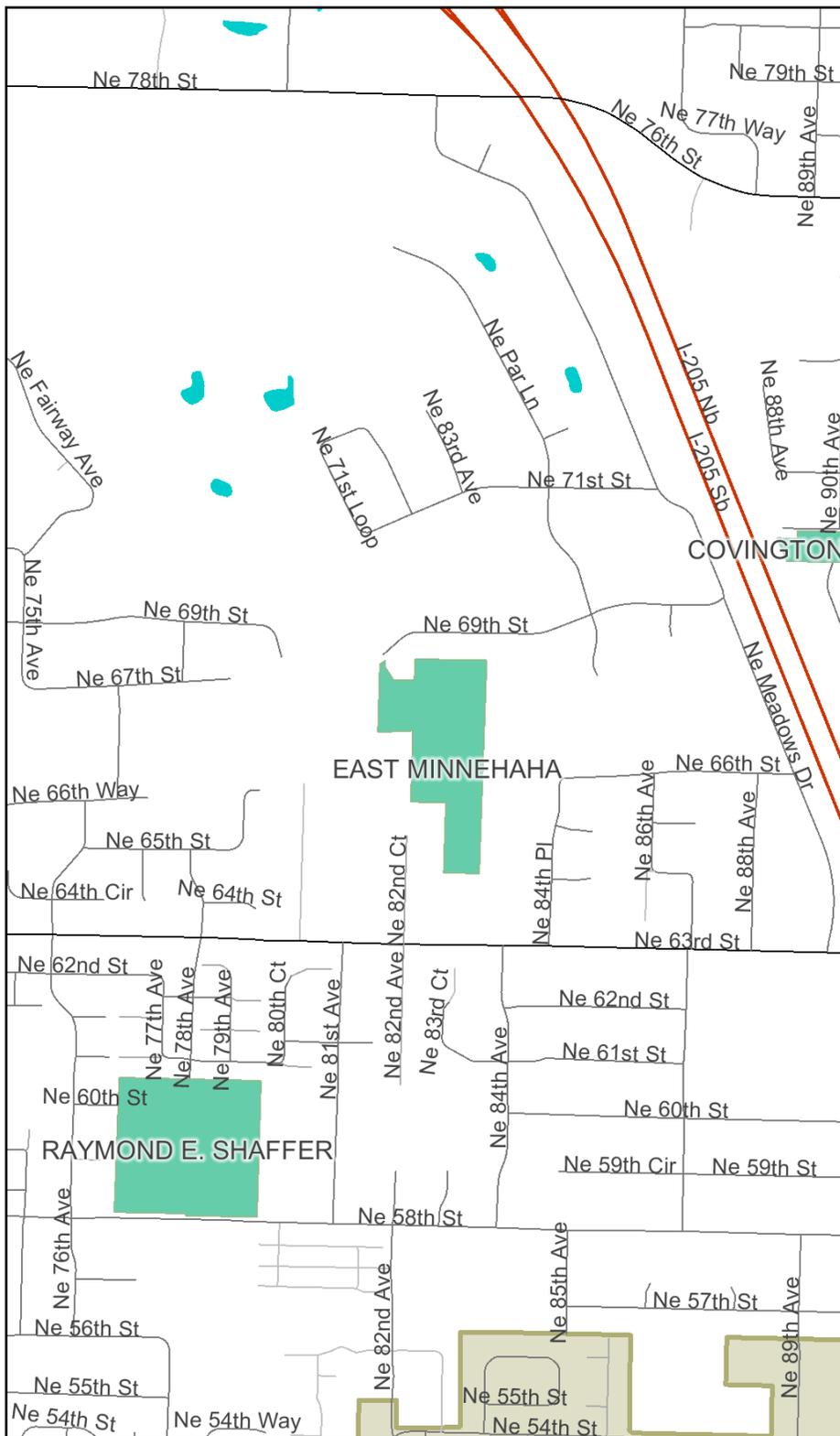
To recommend the Board of Clark County Commissioners approve changing the name of East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park to “Kelley Meadows Neighborhood Park.”

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## Exhibits/Attachments

Vicinity map

# East Minnehaha Neighborhood Park



### Legend

- Park Land
- Roads**
- Alley
- Arterial
- DNR
- DNR (Private Land)
- Driveway
- Interstate
- Interstate Ramp
- Primary Arterial
- Private Roads
- Private Roads w/o Names
- Public Roads
- SR Ramp
- State Route
- Waterbodies
- Rural Centers
- City Boundaries

0 550 1100 ft.

Map center: 1106470, 130145



Scale: 1:9,824