

# Madison Parks FOUNDATION



*Renewing the Legacy*

1402 Wingra Creek Parkway

Madison, WI 53715

608.266.4339

www.madisonparksfoundation.org  
December 13, 2017

City of Madison Park Commission  
Park Commission Members  
210 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Room 403  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Wallner and honorable members of the Park Commission,

We are writing this letter to ask for your consideration of our request to rename Central Park to McPike Park.

It is our desire that you change the name of this park to represent a man who had a long record of service to the community, particularly within that neighborhood and the surrounding area.

Milton McPike served as the principal of East High School for 23 years and had a positive influence on thousands of students who attended East High School. He received numerous awards for his excellent service, including being named one of ten "American Heroes in Education" by Reader's Digest in 1990. In 1997, Milt was named Wisconsin State Principal of the Year and in 2007, he received the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award. Additionally, Milt served as a UW Board of Regent as well as serving on numerous boards throughout the community.

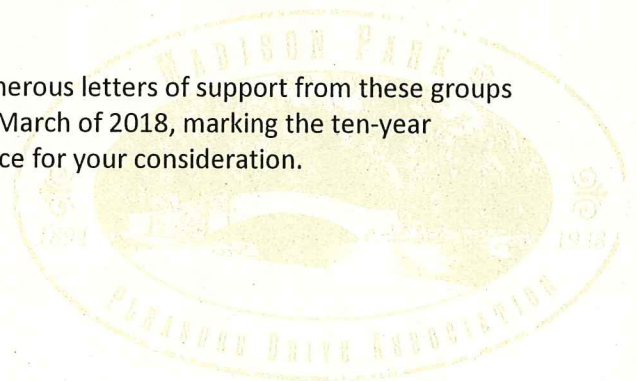
Milt was a shining example of a true Madison leader with his passion for helping others. It was not difficult to garner the backing of many of the neighborhood associations and local alders to support our efforts to have a park named after such an amazing individual who made such a positive impact on the community.

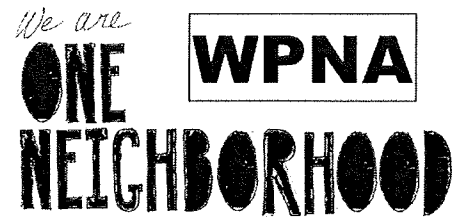
Under the Statement of Policies and Guidelines for naming parks and recreation areas within the Madison Park System as set forth by the City of Madison Park Commission, Mr. McPike would qualify within the guidelines to name a park: "4. In memorium for an individual who, over a long period of time has devoted outstanding amounts of time, talent and effort to the advancement of Madison Community."

The Madison Parks Foundation has attached numerous letters of support from these groups and ask that you consider making this change in March of 2018, marking the ten-year anniversary of his death. We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully,

The Board of Madison Parks Foundation





December 6, 2017

Dear Parks Commissioners,

We are writing in support of the Madison Parks Foundation and their idea to rename Central Park for Milton McPike.

As one of the eastside neighborhoods that feeds into East High School, we recognize the impact that Principal McPike had on the school and agree that his legacy should be preserved. We think that renaming Central Park for him is an excellent and fitting tribute to a man whose educational contributions continue to benefit our school, our neighborhood and our city.

We urge you to approve this change, and thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

The Worthington Park Neighborhood Association

## Franklin, Stephanie

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**From:** Bob Hemauer <me@bobhemauer.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 26, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Franklin; Franklin, Stephanie  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter of Support from EENA

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Eena Co-Chairs <[REDACTED]@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** Sun, Nov 26, 2017 at 12:49 PM  
**Subject:** Letter of Support from EENA  
**To:** Bob Hemauer <me@bobhemauer.com>, "Maureen A. Lokrantz" <maureen.lokrantz@usbank.com>

Dear Madison Parks Foundation,  
Dear Maureen Lukrantz and Bob Hemauer,

Thank you for attending the Emerson East Neighborhood Association (EENA) Meeting on November 15, 2017 and thank you for informing us that on November 20, 2017 the Marquette Neighborhood Association voted to support the Madison Park Foundation's proposal to rename Central Park.

In this context, EENA would like to express its support of the Foundation's proposal to rename Central Park to Milton McPike Park.

The Emerson East neighborhood is home of East High School, the place where McPike served as principal for more than 20 years. Many of our neighbors have vivid memories of Milt McPike and are aware of the great and positive impact he had on East High, the surrounding area and Madison in general. To many of us, naming a public park after him is not a new idea.

All the best for your efforts,

Indira Ceylan & Chris Heaton  
EENA Co-Chairs

## Franklin, Stephanie

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**From:** Michael Hernandez <mhernandez3@madison.k12.wi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 08, 2017 2:02 PM  
**To:** Franklin, Stephanie  
**Subject:** East High School

Good afternoon,

I am emailing you to show my support on the idea of renaming Central Park the McPike Park in Madison. Mr. McPike's legacy is legendary due to the number of people he has influenced and supported throughout his career. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Mike Hernandez

Michael Hernandez  
East High School Principal  
2222 East Washington Ave  
Madison, Wisconsin 53704  
[mhernandez3@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:mhernandez3@madison.k12.wi.us)



On November 8, 2017, I had the pleasure of speaking to Professor Bill Barker, who was the Park Commission President during Central Park Planning meetings and the park's completion.

I discussed the proposal to change the name from Central Park to McPike Park to honor the late Milton McPike, long time principal of East High School. Professor Barker gave his full support of this proposal and felt it a fitting tribute to someone who had such a large impact on the community.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Franklin  
Executive Director  
Madison Parks Foundation

# SASY

## Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association

Monday, October 30, 2017

*Sent by Email*

Stephanie Franklin  
Madison Parks Foundation  
1402 Wingra Creek Parkway  
Madison, WI 53715

Dear Ms. Franklin,


I send this letter on behalf of the Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara (SASY) Neighborhood Association in strong support of the burgeoning community drive to rename Central Park in honor of Milton McPike, the renown former principal of East High School. The unanimous vote of the SASY Board at our October meeting was to support the proposed name change from Central Park to Milton McPike Park.

When this proposed name change first surfaced the SASY Board did not quickly rush to a decision. Instead, the board asked many questions about the history, intent and possible pushback from such a change. The discussion moved from one month to the next, with the topic resurfacing when Bob Hemauer presented to the board in October. From the board members and participants present at those meetings, it quickly became clear that Principal McPike's legacy lives on. Everyone who spoke about him expressed deep feelings of respect, gratitude and admiration. He was a role model with few equals. We would be honored to have Central Park rechristened with his name. What is more, it sends a positive message that we honor his legacy as a black role model in Madison during these racially divisive times.

Please accept this letter as the SASY Board's wholehearted endorsement of renaming Central Park to Milton McPike Park. We see this as a way of joining the powerful legacy of Principal McPike with a new public community park that truly serves as a neighborhood gathering place. Even if only in name, it would set the tone for bringing our community together for the common good. With this change we would carry forward his success and example for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

  
Brad Hinkfuss  
President - SASY, Inc.

Cc: Marsha Rummel, Bob Hemauer, SASY Board of Directors

To: Madison Parks Foundation

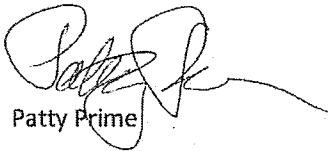
From: Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association Council

Re: Renaming Central Park to Milt McPike Park

On September 14, 2017, Bob Hemauer proposed to the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association Council that we support the renaming of Central Park, at 202 South Ingersoll Street, to Milt McPike Park. Milt McPike is well remembered for the respect he demanded of the students and built into the culture at East High School. He encouraged the staff to engage with the students. He brought pride to our local high school and had a lasting positive influence on a generation of students and their parents. It is appropriate to honor him by giving a well-known east side landmark his name.

The TLNA Council voted to support the renaming of Central Park to Milt McPike Park.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patty Prime", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patty Prime

TLNA President