

From: Scott Thornton <sbthornton@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 9:22 AM  
To: Knepp, Eric <EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>  
Cc: Parks Long Range Planning Committee  
<ParksLongRangePlanningCommittee@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Support for Renaming Kerr-McGee Triangle Park (Agenda Item 9, Legistar 72239)

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Dear Eric,

Today I am writing to you in support of renaming Kerr-McGee Triangle park the R. Richard Wagner park in honor of my dear friend Dick Wagner.

The impacts of Dick's passion for the city, including the city's parks are still evident today. When I lived in the Mansion Hill neighborhood the Period Garden park was a favorite retreat from my apartment. Dick brought me to the Gay Liberation sculpture in Orton Park. He had worked with the Madison Art Center and the New Harvest Foundation to site it there temporarily. My first visit to Olbrich Botanical Park was with Dick, who gave me his own guided tour. For several years I joined Dick and other friends at Rhapsody in Bloom. The pride with which he spoke of the gardens and on-going projects there was inspirational. His own gardens were always a reflection of that passion and no visit, spring, summer or fall did not include a tour of what was currently blooming.

The triangle park was important to him. The benches he believed were from the grounds of the original state Capitol building. When some plans were drawn up to remove one or more of the benches for another project he helped me, as I was the president of the neighborhood association, prevent them from being removed. Dick supported the installation of the "Alexa" sculpture by artist Susan Walsh in the park. He explained the significance to me of the industrial implements reflective of the industry in that end of Williamson Street. He was very proud to have been part of making what was once a gas station into the park that is there now.

The chasm created by Dick's sudden death in the park last December is still felt by his close friends and neighbors. I could not think of a more appropriate dedication to his work for the City of Madison than to name the triangle park R. Richard Wagner park.

Sincerely,

Scott B. Thornton  
1104 Jenifer St

From: Katie Childs <kechilds@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 1:43 PM  
To: Parks Long Range Planning Committee  
<ParksLongRangePlanningCommittee@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Dick Wagner

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Hello,  
I'm writing in support of renaming the Kerr-McGee Triangle Park in honor of the late Dick Wagner. Dick was a longtime activist and champion of Madison's civic life. Renaming this park would be a nod to his legacy and the importance of local history.  
Thank you,  
Katie Childs

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From: Bradley Grochocinski <bradleygro@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 2:04 PM  
To: Parks Long Range Planning Committee  
<ParksLongRangePlanningCommittee@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: In Support of "R. Richard Wagner Park" Name Change

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Hello,  
  
I am writing in support of renaming the Kerr-McGee Triangle Park to the R. Richard Wagner Park in honor of Dick Wagner.  
  
Thank you,  
Bradley Grochocinski

1350 Spaight St.

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From: Mark Porter <mark.porter@att.net>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 6:29 PM  
To: Parks Long Range Planning Committee  
<ParksLongRangePlanningCommittee@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Dick Wagner's Park

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Hi, I'd like to throw in a word of support for renaming the park to be Dick Wagner Park. Dick was an unbelievable force in our community for decades, his loss will be felt for many as well. I think the least we can do is recognize him with a park that he helped create.  
Sincerely yours,  
Mark Porter

Mark Porter  
4483 Waterman Rd.  
Oregon, WI 53575  
608-345-7510  
[Mark.porter@att.net](mailto:Mark.porter@att.net)

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From: Judy Olson <judyolson405@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2022 12:42 PM  
To: Parks Long Range Planning Committee  
<ParksLongRangePlanningCommittee@cityofmadison.com>; Knepp, Eric  
<EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>; Freiwald, Ann <AFreiwald@cityofmadison.com>  
Cc: Verveer, Michael <district4@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Supporting Wagner Park

TO: City of Madison Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee  
Eric Knepp  
Ann Freiwald

I am writing to express my support for renaming Triangle Park, located at Williamson/Jenifer streets to honor Dick Wagner

Through a lifetime of public service, Dick Wagner left a legacy of preservation and improvement of our community. His contributions touch many areas of life, but one of the most important was his work preserving and expanding parks and open space. Some of these achievements include:

\*Three years as chair of the East Rail Corridor Planning Committee. In this role, Dick helped to bring diverse stakeholders together to create a comprehensive plan for the redevelopment of the East Rail Corridor, which today includes the vibrant and well-used McPike Park.

\*Expansion of Olbrich Botanical Gardens, including siting of the Thai Pavilion.

\*Preservation of Wisdom Prairie

\*Preservation of Period Gardens

\*Development of the Starkweather Water Quality Plan

\*Creation of Triangle Park itself. In this effort, Dick helped to convert a truly blighted corner of the Marquette Neighborhood into a beauty spot.

His work prevented the site from being purchased and developed as an incongruous apartment building.

By helping to create and expand parks, Dick Wagner helped to improve both urban and rural space for the benefit of all. I believe that renaming this park in the neighborhood he loved and helped build would be a fitting tribute.

Thanks for your consideration.

Judy Olson  
518 Clemons Ave  
Madison, WI

Eric Knepp, Parks Superintendent  
Madison Parks Department  
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd #104  
Madison, WI 53703

Hi Eric

I hope that this note finds you well. I wanted to write today to lend my complete support to the Olbrich Botanical Society and Madison Parks Foundation efforts to rename the park currently known as Kerr-McGee Triangle Park to "R. Richard Wagner Park," after R. Richard (Dick) Wagner, who passed away on December 12, 2021. While I did not have the opportunity to know Mr. Wagner personally, for many years, I have been inspired by his service to our community. As I have learned that Mr. Wagner donated more than 2,100 hours to supporting Olbrich Botanical Society, I wish that I had the opportunity to thank him in person. For decades, I have personally enjoyed the fantastic gift- that Olbrich is to our city.

I hope that by renaming the park, others can better understand the tremendous impact that Mr. Wagner had on our city and within many lives that he influenced. Please know that any consideration would be deeply appreciated.

Best wishes and care

Brian Benford

Aldersperson-District6

2722 Center Ave.

Madison WI 53704

[district6@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district6@cityofmadison.com)