

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Parks and recreation facilities seek name suggestions *Park Board adopts new policy on gathering naming proposals*

PROSPER (May 17, 2010) The Town of Prosper is embarking on a fairly ambitious plan for the parks system that will eventually offer residents a variety of recreational opportunities. The Park and Recreation Board and parks staff have been discussing a number of preliminary plans for additional parks, although many are still in the conceptual stage. They have come to agreement, however, on how to accept suggestions on naming new parks and recreation facilities, according to Parks and Recreation Planner Wade Harden.

“Anyone can submit a name for a park or recreation facility that does not now have an official name, as long as a few simple rules are followed,” he said. The rules governing the naming of these facilities have been discussed and approved by the Parks Board and have become policy.

Proposals for names will be divided into several categories including:

- Prominent physical features adjacent to the park such as a lake, river or creek;
- Significant historical event or events which occurred in or near the park;
- Street or avenue adjacent to the park;
- Subdivision in which the park is located;
- Texas or U.S. figure who has contributed to improving the public’s quality of life;
- Individual or group that has made exceptional contributions to the Town of Prosper, especially in the areas of parks or recreation such as:
  - Donating or contributing a significant amount for the acquisition or development of a park or facilities within a park;
  - Providing direct and noteworthy volunteer services benefitting the local population.

“While we strive to revere leaders who have made major personal sacrifices or in-kind contributions to the parks movement, the board nevertheless was clear in prohibiting consideration of any person who is currently holding an elected office or membership on the Park board,” he added.

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To be considered, a proposed name should be submitted to the Park and Recreation Board along with the following justification:

- Specific reason for the suggested name, including supporting documentation, if any; and
- Substantiation of community support for the proposed name.

Petitions may be submitted in support of a name, but the petitions must clearly indicate the intent of the petition and include signatures, printed names, full street addresses and phone numbers of signers to verify residency.

According to the policy, the board will accept nominations, review and study the nomination packets and forward a recommended name to the Town Council for final determination.

“We will soon have opportunities to put this policy into action, so it’s important that the public is aware of how the process works,” concluded Harden.

The Town of Prosper is currently constructing the Community Park, which will serve to anchor the park development system plan for the near future. Discussions are currently underway regarding the naming of that 76-acre facility on the northern edge of the town, and the naming policy will likely be implemented to obtain public input in the naming procedure. The Community Park is set to open for public use in the spring of 2011.

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**ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER** – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 9,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 90,000 residents, Prosper’s vision is to remain a “Place Where Everyone Matters.”