

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, RENAMING THE VAN NESS AND
WELDON POCKET PARK TO "TROLLEY" PARK

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno owns property located at APN 444-153-28s commonly known as the Van Ness and Weldon Pocket Park; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno and community leaders broke ground on a new park in the Fresno High neighborhood, located at Van Ness and Weldon Avenues, on July 29, 2022; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the historical nature of the neighborhood this resolution intends to acknowledge the old "Fresno Traction Company" trolley car system whose lines ran along Wishon Avenue near Fresno High School and Fresno City College until it was discontinued in 1939; and

WHEREAS, by 1874 the Fresno County Seat had relocated from the river town of Millerton, along the San Joaquin River to the Fresno Station, a siding of the Southern Pacific Railroad; and was incorporated into the City of Fresno in 1885; and

WHEREAS, the Fresno Traction Company was chartered in 1903. Two years later it secured a lease encompassing all tracks owned by the Fresno Railway Company marking the commencement of an expansion in Fresno Traction's mileage; and

WHEREAS, by 1920, the Fresno Traction Company operated cars along six routes: Blackstone, Recreation Park, Arlington Heights, J Street & Wishon Avenue, Roeding Park, and West Fresno; and

Date Adopted:
Date Approved:
Effective Date:
City Attorney Approval: _____

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WHEREAS, the Roeding Park streetcar line was completed in 1912; and expanded northward towards the San Joaquin River crossing through, the Historical Fresno High Neighborhood, which created the extension of the notable Wishon Line Car, passing under the Santa Fe tracks south of Shields Avenue; and

WHEREAS, in 1913 the Fresno Traction Company obtained a franchise along Wishon Avenue, initiating the construction of an inter-urban line to Fresno Beach on the San Joaquin River. Upon its completion, regular service to Fresno Beach commenced; and

WHEREAS, during the peak years of streetcar travel, between the years of 1902 and 1929; trolleys and street cars carried tens of thousands of riders along almost 200 miles of track; and

WHEREAS, by the end of the 1920s, automobiles began to compete with trolleys and revenues begin to fall as more and more people chose to drive; and

WHEREAS, in 1939, streetcar services had ended as the last two lines were abandoned, and the National City Lines took over the trolley routes, switching their services to buses; and

WHEREAS, following the conversion of the Fresno Traction Company into the Fresno City Lines; the streetcar tracks were dismantled and some right-of-ways were converted into new roadways; and

WHEREAS, the 1914 Wishon Avenue underpass that had previously been used only for streetcar service; has now become an underpass for a one-way southbound roadway; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Fresno Municipal Code Section 5-101 the Council has the ability to name or rename public facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. The park currently known as the Van Ness and Weldon Park shall hereafter be named "Trolley" Park.
2. This resolution is adopted in accordance with Section 8 of Administrative Order 6-2.
3. This resolution shall be effective upon final approval.

* * * * *

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
 CITY OF FRESNO)

I, TODD STERMER, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____ 2024.

AYES :
 NOES :
 ABSENT :
 ABSTAIN :

TODD STERMER, CMC
 City Clerk

By: _____ Date
 Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
 ANDREW JANZ
 City Attorney

By: _____ Date
 Angela M. Karst
 Senior Deputy City Attorney