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**Date** ..... September 24, 2024 .....

**RESOLUTION APPROVING NAMING OF THE GRAY’S LAKE PARK PLAYGROUND AND SPRAYGROUND AS THE RICK NEUMANN FAMILY PLAYGROUND AND SPRAYGROUND**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Des Moines, acting through the Parks and Recreation Department, is charged with the responsibility of providing safe recreational facilities within the City for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents of the City, including Gray’s Lake Park which is owned and maintained by the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 23, 2016, by Resolution #16-065, the Parks and Recreation Board approved the updated Gray’s Lake Park Master Plan which provides guidance on all areas within the Gray’s Lake Park boundary, including a playground and sprayground project recommended as the first phase of implementation of the Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 24, 2023, by Roll Call No. 23-0597, the City Council approved a Donation Agreement with the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines (“Foundation”) for Design and Funding of the Gray’s Lake Playground and Sprayground Project (“Agreement”), by which the Foundation agrees to accept donations from companies and individuals to a Gray’s Lake Playground-Sprayground Fund to be used for the design, permitting and installation of City-owned playground equipment and related elements, sprayground equipment and related elements, utilities, safety surfacing, seating, signage, lighting, ADA-accessible walkways, site restoration of areas disturbed by this work and all other related improvements, on the north shore of Gray’s Lake within Gray’s Lake Park as shown on the Master Plan (collectively the “Playground Improvements”), which charitable donations will be provided by the Foundation to the City for the final design and construction of the Playground Improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, said Agreement further provides that the Playground Improvements shall be named by Council resolution upon acceptance thereof by the City Council and subject to a 20-year limitation and compliance with the City’s below-described naming policy; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 15, 2024, by Roll Call Nos. 24-0932 and 24-0933, the City Council approved the conceptual plan and preliminary design specifications for the Playground Improvements and further approved a Professional Services Agreement with Confluence, Inc. for final design services for the project; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 4, 2009, by Roll Call No. 09-801, the City Council adopted a policy for the naming and renaming of City streets, facilities, and parkland in the City of Des Moines, which policy provides, in part, that the Mayor, Council Member, or Council as a whole may sponsor a request for naming or renaming on the Council agenda and that Council action to approve a name change may be expedited if deemed appropriate by Council; and

**WHEREAS**, Gordon R. (Rick) Neumann, Jr. has carried on his family’s generational tradition of unwavering service to the Des Moines community and is undeniably a pillar respected by all with whom he has interacted, serving numerous Associations, Boards, and city, regional and statewide Committees, Commissions, and Alliances; his positive impact is felt deeply, but no place more than the landmark Gray’s Lake Park, which was home to his great grandfather and grandfather’s sand and gravel business prior to becoming a nationally recognized public space; he has since been a long-time champion of supporting Gray’s Lake Park as a special

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place to find nature within the City of Des Moines, balancing recreation with natural resources; and he has collaborated closely with many to apply this approach to the newest anticipated improvements to the park – the playground and sprayground project; and

**WHEREAS**, City Councilmembers Josh Mandelbaum, Carl Voss, and Mike Simonson wish to name the Playground Improvements, during project final design and construction and through completion and acceptance by the City, as the Rick Neumann Family Playground and Sprayground in recognition of said public service, and further recommend that the Council waive the renaming policy process requirements and expedite approval of said naming.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, as follows:

1. That portion of the City Policy for Naming of Streets, Facilities and Park Land in the City of Des Moines regarding review and public hearing for the City naming process is hereby waived, and said process is expedited, and the City further waives the 20-year limitation on naming rights set forth in Section V.A of the above-described Donation Agreement.
2. That the City’s Gray’s Lake Playground and Sprayground project and project improvements shall be named and known as the Rick Neumann Family Playground and Sprayground.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt.

Second by \_\_\_\_\_.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Glenna K. Frank  
 Glenna K. Frank, Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
MANDELBAUM				
SIMONSON				
VOSS				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	
_____ Mayor				

**CERTIFICATE**

I, LAURA BAUMGARTNER, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk