



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: November 30, 2010
To: Honorable Mayor, City Council
From: Mahdi Aluzri, Assistant City Manager
Subject: Request by Councilmember Mirisch for naming the baseball diamonds at LaCienega Park after the renowned Dodgers' announcer Mr. Vin Scully
Attachments: Transmittal From Councilmember Mirisch

This report transmits a request from Councilmember Mirisch to the City Council for consideration of naming one or more of the three baseball diamonds at La Cienega Park after Mr. Vin Scully. The naming process is typically initiated through a review by the Recreation and Parks Commission with a recommendation for final action by the Council. Councilmember is requesting concurrence of the City Council to initiate that process.

Mahdi Aluzri 
Approved By

Attachment 1

Vin Scully Diamonds at La Cienega Park

Vin Scully is not only a living baseball legend, he is a Southern California institution whose voice has been described as “the heart of LA.” Through his decades with the Dodgers, Mr. Scully has also been an ever-present and special part of baseball in Beverly Hills, and he has instilled a love of baseball in literally generations of Beverly Hills residents. Thousands and thousands of Beverly Hills kids -- including several current councilmembers -- have cherished memories of listening to Dodger games and Vin Scully, including under their bedtime covers, as they were supposed to be sleeping.

Vin Scully continues to thrill thousands of Beverly Hills baseball fans, from those who brought their transistor radios to bed in the days of yore and are now parents themselves to new and younger generations. Most days or nights during the baseball season, Mr. Scully’s distinctive voice can be heard throughout Beverly Hills, in the homes and hearts of the City’s baseball lovers -- and long may he continue to bless the lives of Beverly Hills baseball fans.

Over the years, Vin Scully has spent a great deal of time in Beverly Hills and is very familiar with our community. The McCourt Group, owner of the Dodgers, is headquartered in BH.

Beyond baseball, Vin Scully is a symbol of pure professionalism, utter authenticity and total class. BH likes to consider itself a classy city. Naming the little league diamonds at La Cienega park in honor of Vin Scully would be the perfect way to honor and give our thanks to this embodiment of everything it means to be a mensch; with the constant reminder of his name above our baseball diamonds, Vin Scully could continue to be a role model and inspiration for our children for generations to come.

Mr. Scully is a very humble individual, who has rarely accepted any naming honors. He has, however, agreed to allow us to name our little league fields after him, something which has been wholeheartedly endorsed by the Beverly Hills Little League. By accepting our gratitude and agreeing to have his name grace our little league fields, Vin Scully has truly honored the City of Beverly Hills and will provide an ongoing link between ourselves and future generations, between this time and our City’s future. By allowing us to name our diamonds after him, Mr. Scully is giving us, our children and

our children's children – as he has been doing for over 52 years, more than half of our City's existence – a gift. It is a gift that is to be cherished over the years to come, from generation to generation. Furthermore, since he is known across the Country for his unique characteristics as an individual with great integrity and total commitment to his profession, naming the little league baseball diamonds after Mr. Scully would not set a precedent for future requests.

Suggestions for consideration in connection with the Vin Scully Diamonds, to be discussed by the Parks and Recreation Commission include:

- Appropriate signage at the park, diamonds (Vin Scully Diamond A, B, C or 1, 2, 3), as well as signage visible from the street (perhaps in the median). (Placement, design, etc.)
- Plaque (text, placement, design, etc.)
- Bust or statue
- Touchscreen display
 - Display could include information of Vin Scully's career over the decades, including visuals and audio from the various eras. It would also show images of BH in each of the periods, linking Vin Scully's career to the past half-century of BH.
- Other ideas

The goal would be for a plaque, bust and/or display to be financed through donations, with a minimal cost to the City.