



NAMING OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTIES

Purpose:

The Delaware County Council may desire to name a county owned property to reflect a major event or significant place, or to honor a distinguished person's accomplishments and contributions to the community.

This Policy specifically applies to the naming of all types of County owned property, such as (but not limited to) buildings, facilities, rooms or other parts of buildings or facilities, roads, paths, bridges, parks, courtyards, plazas and other physical structures or spaces owned by the County.

Guidelines for Naming:

1. No county owned property shall be named for a living person.
2. Proposed names shall be inclusive and respectful of the community.
3. No county owned property shall be named to reflect the name of, or a request by, a donor or otherwise reflect a financial contribution made to give a specific name.
4. Names shall:
 - a. Ensure a worthy and enduring legacy for the County.
 - b. Engender a strong positive image.
 - c. Be appropriate with regard to the property's location and/or history.
 - d. Have historical, cultural or social significance for future generations.
 - e. Commemorate persons, places or events of continued importance to the County.
 - f. Have symbolic value that transcends ordinary meaning or use and enhances the character and identity of the county owned property.
 - g. Be selected only after receiving input from the community.
 - h. For property named after a person, be selected only after a reasonable attempt to solicit input from any known surviving family members of such person.

Process for Naming:

1. All naming requests shall be submitted to, and reviewed by, the Property Naming Committee.
2. The Property Naming Committee shall make recommendations to County Council for action based on the Guidelines outlined above.
3. In the case of names for parks and park facilities, the Property Naming Committee shall solicit and take into consideration recommendations of the Parks Board.
4. County Council shall review all recommendations for the naming of a property and either approve or request further study by the Property Naming Committee.

Property Naming Committee

The Property Naming Committee shall consist of:

1. Two members of County Council as appointed by Council, one of whom shall be appointed by Council to be Chair of the Property Naming Committee.
2. The County's Executive Director, Solicitor, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer.
3. A judge of the County Court of Common Pleas appointed by Council.

RENAMING OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTIES

Purpose:

The Delaware County Council also recognizes that there may also be exceptional and narrow circumstances in which names given to County owned property no longer fulfill the intent of the County's naming policy or in which it is appropriate to rename County owned property to better reflect the current values of the Delaware County community. This policy sets forth standards for renaming.

This Policy specifically applies to the naming of all types of County owned property, such as (but not limited to) buildings, facilities, rooms or other parts of buildings or facilities, roads, paths, bridges, parks, courtyards, plazas and other physical structures or spaces owned by the County.

1. Any requests to rename county owned property shall be brought to the consideration of Delaware County Council by the applicable department director or other County officer.
2. Delaware County Council may also determine to consider renaming of a county owned property without receiving a request through a department director or other County officer.
3. Delaware County Council shall appoint an ad hoc renaming committee to investigate and consider the request for renaming and to make a recommendation to County Council.
4. In making its recommendation to the Delaware County Council on the renaming, the ad hoc renaming committee shall consider:
 - a. The rationale of the original naming process.
 - b. The past and current effect of the namesake's behavior.
 - i. Did the namesake's action(s) cause hurt to individuals or groups that would have been avoided or corrected by contemporary peers?
 - ii. Does the use of the name undermine the ability of a significant number of individuals or groups to engage in, or feel a sense of belonging to, the community?
 - iii. Is there a strong case that current values and standards have changed so appreciably as to make the name objectionable to the community?
 - c. Community input. The voices and views of the entire community should be a factor in considering the renaming request; it is essential that different perspectives are given respectful consideration.
5. The ad hoc renaming committee shall make compile and make publicly available the historical research considered in making its recommendations.
6. If Council determines to rename any property, the new name for the property shall be determined under the Naming Policy following review and recommendation from the Property Naming Committee.