

I am writing to voice my strong support for changing the name of Center park to Historic Chinatown Park. As a resident of SE Petaluma, raising two young kids, living in a community that honors all our histories, not just the dominant narrative is incredibly important. I applaud the City for considering this action item and urge you to move this forward.

The City of Petaluma has committed to "embrace and model diversity, equity and inclusion in [it's] policies, programs and services." I was proud to see Petaluma City Council take action reflecting this in May 2024 with a proclamation recognizing AANWPI Heritage Month, "***embracing an inclusive history for a more just future and celebrating the generations of AANHPI people whose contributions were pivotal to ... our local community.***"

Honoring Petaluma's Chinese and AANWPI community with the Historic Chinatown Park is an important step towards recognizing this City's complex and diverse history and the contributions of many too often taken for granted. It shows that this City cares about stories of people who look like me and my children and tells us our stories and history matter and we belong here. I urge you to adopt this park name change and thank you for your consideration.