

# **Naming Committee**

Meeting Date: October 1, 2025

Meeting Time: 9:00am

Location: Bend Park and Recreation District Conference Room A, 799 SW Columbia Street Virtual Meeting Details: Join the meeting now, Meeting ID: 239 633 555 294 3, Passcode: 6b8rP92B

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Staff Introductions

# 2. Naming Committee Member Introductions

- a. Be prepared to introduce yourself and tell us what inspired you to join the committee
- 3. Review of the Naming Policy/Approach to Naming
- 4. Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site Naming
  - **a.** Staff presentation, discussion of the history of the Coulter family by Rebekah Averette, opportunity for public comment, committee discussion and naming recommendation
- 5. Next steps
  - a. Board review Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site Name Recommendation
    - i. Tentatively scheduled for October 21, 2025

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Park, Facility, Feature and Trail Naming Policy
- 2. Staff Memorandum Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site



Board Policy

Park, Facility, Feature and Trail Naming Policy

Approved Date: September 23, 2025

Donna Owens, Chair

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# **Purpose**

This policy provides guidance in the naming of Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD) assets inclusive of parks, facilities, features and trails. This policy does not apply to asset naming resulting from sponsorship of parks, facilities, features or trails, which is discussed in the Sponsorship Policy.

# **Definitions**

Asset: As used in this policy, a district asset includes a park, facility or trail.

<u>Business:</u> A for-profit organization that exists to provide services or goods to the community.

Facility: Structure that houses parks and recreational programs, events or operations.

Gift: A charitable donation from an individual or organization in the form of financial or in-kind support for a specific district asset. The BPRD Gift Policy defines parameters for gifts to BPRD from individuals, organizations and businesses. In accordance with the gift policy and any associated gift agreement, gifts/donations are provided with no expectation for additional donor benefits or conditions.

<u>Feature:</u> A permanent component of park and recreational facilities such as a picnic shelter, courts or playground.

<u>Naming Rights Sponsorship:</u> An arrangement between the district and external entity, wherein the external entity provides goods, services, or financial support to the district in return for exclusive, limited duration naming of a facility and/or commercial/marketing/branding affiliation with district assets including district programs, events or services. Such arrangements are defined in a sponsorship agreement and further discussed in the Sponsorship Policy.

<u>Organization:</u> A non-profit or civic organization that exists to offer services or goods to the community.

<u>Parks:</u> All outdoor traditional designed parks, natural open spaces, historic sites, and specialized parks under the district's jurisdiction or management.

<u>Trails:</u> For the purposes of this policy, trails shall include new trails only and shall not include additions to existing trails, connector trails, or sections with easement agreements.

# **Guiding principals**

Naming provides the opportunity to provide an identity for a park, facility, feature or trail that should engender positive emotion and goodwill. As such, naming should be done with careful consideration and with the following in mind:

Reviewer: Planning and Development Last Review Date: September 2025 Next Review Date: September 2030 Review Schedule: 5 Years

- Positive Names will elicit a strong positive image for all residents and visitors and have a symbolic value that enhances the character of the park, facility or trail.
- Relevant Names shall be relevant to the district's mission and community character.
- Welcoming Names shall be approachable and welcoming to all district residents and visitors.
- Fact Based Research and evidence shall be used to demonstrate suitability of proposed names.
- Privilege No special privilege shall be given to any named entity of a park, facility, feature or trail.

# Names shall not:

- Violate or promote the violation of federal, state or local laws.
- Infringe on copyright or intellectual property rights.
- Use graphic, obscene, explicit, violent, threatening, sexist, racist, or other offensive language or imagery.
- Promote or perpetuate discrimination in any form on the basis of race, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, color, age, gender identity, marital status, national origin, physical ability, or other protected status or class.
- Compromise public safety or security.
- Violate the privacy of individuals or groups in images or via information.
- Provide false, defamatory information.

# **Naming Categories**

Asset names shall be selected from one of the following categories and shall not be duplicative of another asset in the community:

- Geographic Place-based names (street, subdivision, area of the City, etc.) can help improve ease of locating district amenities and can help establish a sense of place.
- Indigenous, Cultural or Historic reference References to the past can help educate the community about historical context and preserve memories of key cultural or historic elements, events or peoples within the district.
- Native Flora or Natural Feature Naming a park after native flora or a natural feature helps illustrate the value the community places upon nature and the natural environment.
- People Parks, facilities and trails may be named in recognition of a living or deceased individual or family. This naming approach shall only be considered a minimum of 12

months after separation of service from BPRD, or a minimum of 12 months after the date of the death of that person, if applicable. This naming approach requires compliance with the following criterion:

- When 50% or more of the value of the parkland is donated, or
- O When 50% or more of the value of the development costs are donated, or
- When an individual/family has made a significant and sustained contribution to the community and/or the district over the course of many years
- Community Organizations Parks, facilities and trails may be named after an outstanding civic group or non-profit organization in recognition of significant or sustained contribution to the community and/or the district over the course of many years.

# **Procedures**

The Planning and Development Department shall be responsible for managing the naming process for any park, facility or trail. They shall designate a primary contact to manage this process to ensure consistency in the naming approach. What follows are the applicable procedures for interim naming, feature naming, parks, facilities and trails naming, and renaming.

<u>Interim Naming</u> – As land is acquired, a temporary name shall be assigned by planning staff for the sake of internal and external communications until such time that the formal naming process can be completed. In general, the naming convention shall be as follows:

- Parcels acquired adjoining to another that are intended to expand the site shall be named for the original site.
- New, free-standing parcels acquired with the intention of future development shall be temporarily named based upon proximate street intersections, significant landmark or subdivision names.
- Natural area acquisition shall be temporarily named for prominent or significant geographic features, if present.

The permanent park naming process may commence simultaneously with the interim naming process in cases where development of the park, facility or trail is imminent. Otherwise, the formal naming process may occur concurrently with the commencement of the planning process for the new park, facility or trail.

<u>Feature Naming</u> – Features within parks, such as fields, courts, playgrounds, etc. may be named in recognition of significant involvement or investment by organizations, individuals or businesses in supporting the community's park and recreation system. Feature names should abide by the Guiding Principles of this policy. Names may be approved by the executive director and naming recognition, such as the placement of signage or plaques will be designed to fit the circumstance and must be approved by the district before placement.

<u>Park, Facility and Trails Naming</u> - BPRD shall establish a Naming Committee for the purposes of naming parks, facilities and trails. The executive director or their designee(s) shall manage the naming committee process in its entirety. The Board of Directors will direct staff to create a process for selection of Naming Committee members for a four-year term. The Board will be

responsible for appointing an ad hoc Naming Committee to consider and recommend a name to the full Board of Directors. The process is as follows

Five appointed representatives appointed every two years, with two seats filled in one
cycle and three seats filled in the next. Appointees may include individuals from
underrepresented populations within the community, members of the BPRD Foundation
Board, those with relevant historical knowledge, individuals familiar with the district and
community character, or those with a passion for placemaking and community building.
Committee members serve a four-year term and may be reappointed by the board for an
additional term if they wish to continue.

After formation of the committee, the following process shall be followed for all naming and renaming of district assets covered by this policy.

- Name recommendations Staff shall use research methods to develop and analyze a list of
  potential names for applicable district assets. The community shall also have the
  opportunity to contribute ideas for asset names as follows:
  - Neighborhood parks requests for potential names shall be solicited from the applicable Neighborhood Association and its membership, and as part of the planning and design process.
  - Community and Regional Parks, Facilities and Trails media and social media channels will be used to communicate an upcoming naming process and solicit name suggestions from interested community members.

Planning staff shall review all names suggested by the community and do additional research and analysis as necessary. Upon completion of research and analysis, staff shall send a list of a minimum of three potential names to the Naming Committee for review.

- Naming Committee review of name recommendations The Naming Committee shall
  review the potential asset names and may suggest additional names for consideration by
  the committee and staff. If additional names are suggested, a second Naming Committee
  meeting may be required to allow for research and analysis by staff. The Naming
  Committee will make a recommendation to the board for consideration and approval.
- Board review and approval of an asset name The board shall review the full list of
  potential asset names considered by the committee, along with the Naming Committee's
  recommendation at a publicly noticed meeting. The board at its full discretion may select
  the asset name after taking comments from any interested parties.
- Recognition and Signage after board approval of the asset name, development of applicable signage shall commence at the appropriate time. Said signage shall comply with all district design standards in force at the time.

Renaming — The district recognizes that names become well known and that changing names can be challenging from a wayfinding perspective for residents and costly for the district. Therefore, renaming a park, facility, feature or trail is not encouraged. Names that have been widely accepted by the community will not be abandoned unless there are compelling reasons and strong public sentiment from the broader community to do so. Historically or commonly used place names will be preserved wherever possible.

The district reserves the right to rename any park, facility or trail if the name is found to be inconsistent with the guiding principles in this policy or the person for whom it is named demonstrates disrespectful behavior or subsequently acts in a disruptive or dishonorable manner.

The process for renaming parks, facilities, or trails shall follow the process for naming defined above, with the exception that a request for renaming shall be initiated by either a community member, the board of directors or staff. The request shall be reviewed for merit, and determination shall be made with regard to whether the renaming process shall proceed during a publicly noticed board of directors meeting. Community requests for renaming should be submitted in writing to the executive director or their designee.

# **Policy Exemptions**

For naming requests not otherwise covered in policy, a proposal may be submitted for review by the executive director and final approval by the board of directors.



TO: Bend Park and Recreation District Naming Committee

FROM: Rachel Colton, Park Planner

DATE: October 1, 2025

RE: Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site Naming

The Reed Lane Neighborhood Park (park site) is located at the intersection of Reed Lane and Southwest (SW) Coulter Lane, immediately west of Highway 97. The park site was owned by the Coulter Family and purchased by the district in 2023. The parcel the district purchased included property on both the east and west sides of Coulter Lane as illustrated on the Site Plan (Attachment A) and included a total of 4.3 acres. In 2025, the district split the lot and only the approximately 3.17-acre property east of SW Coulter Lane will be developed as a park. The remaining property has been surplused by the district board and may be sold in the future. The site lies within Park Search Area 18 identified in the district's Comprehensive Plan: 2024 Midterm Update and development of this park will support the district's goal of providing a park within one-half mile of every resident.

The park site is undeveloped but disturbed. The property used to have a residence, irrigation pond and septic system, but those have been demolished and removed from the site. The site is relatively flat with a variety of deciduous and evergreen trees of various sizes and species present on the property. Images of the parks site are included in Attachment B: Site Photos. Possible features that will be developed at the site include, but are not limited to, open lawn, picnic and gathering space, play area, paved path and natural soft surface trails in accordance with the <a href="District's development standards for neighborhood parks">District's development standards for neighborhood parks</a>.

The project to develop this park site commenced in Summer of 2025, with distribution of a design services request for proposals and initial community outreach, and park construction is expected to be complete by the end of 2027.

#### Outreach

The Park, Facility, Feature and Trail Naming Policy requires community outreach for district asset naming. Specifically, for neighborhood parks, "requests for potential names shall be solicited from the applicable Neighborhood Association and its membership, and as part of the planning and design process."

As part of the project kick off, the district mailed 970 postcards to residents within an approximate three-quarter mile walking distance of the property. The postcard provided information about the upcoming project, including the project website, contract information and QR code and website for the

naming survey. The postcards directed interested parties to the <u>project website</u>, which at that time, included a link to a survey to provide feedback on the project, including potential names. The postcards also included a QR code that could be scanned as a direct link to the survey. The survey was live for three weeks, from August 18 – September 8, 2025. Twenty-one individual survey responses were received in addition to 13 email comments. Many respondents submitted multiple name suggestions, resulting in 30 unique name suggestions.

Only a couple of respondents chose to explain their suggestion, and the explanation was generally related to the Coulter family. The name suggestions came from individuals and were not discussed in a public forum. They leaned very heavily toward three themes: the Coulter family, flora and fauna (trees in particular) and physical geography (street names, canal, etc.). A summary of the Round 1 outreach, including naming feedback, is included as Attachment C of this report.

#### **Potential Names**

When considering potential names, staff worked to determine names that fell into one of the five naming categories identified in the naming policy:

- Geographic
- Indigenous, Cultural or Historic
- Native Flora or Natural Feature
- People
- Community Organization

Research to determine potential names included:

- Discussion with Naming Committee members and district staff;
- Multiple site visits to review native flora and fauna as well as geographic wayfinding elements; and
- Internet research to better understand the history and context of potential names, as well as additional potential names.

A total of five potential park names in no particular order are recommended for consideration by the Naming Committee.

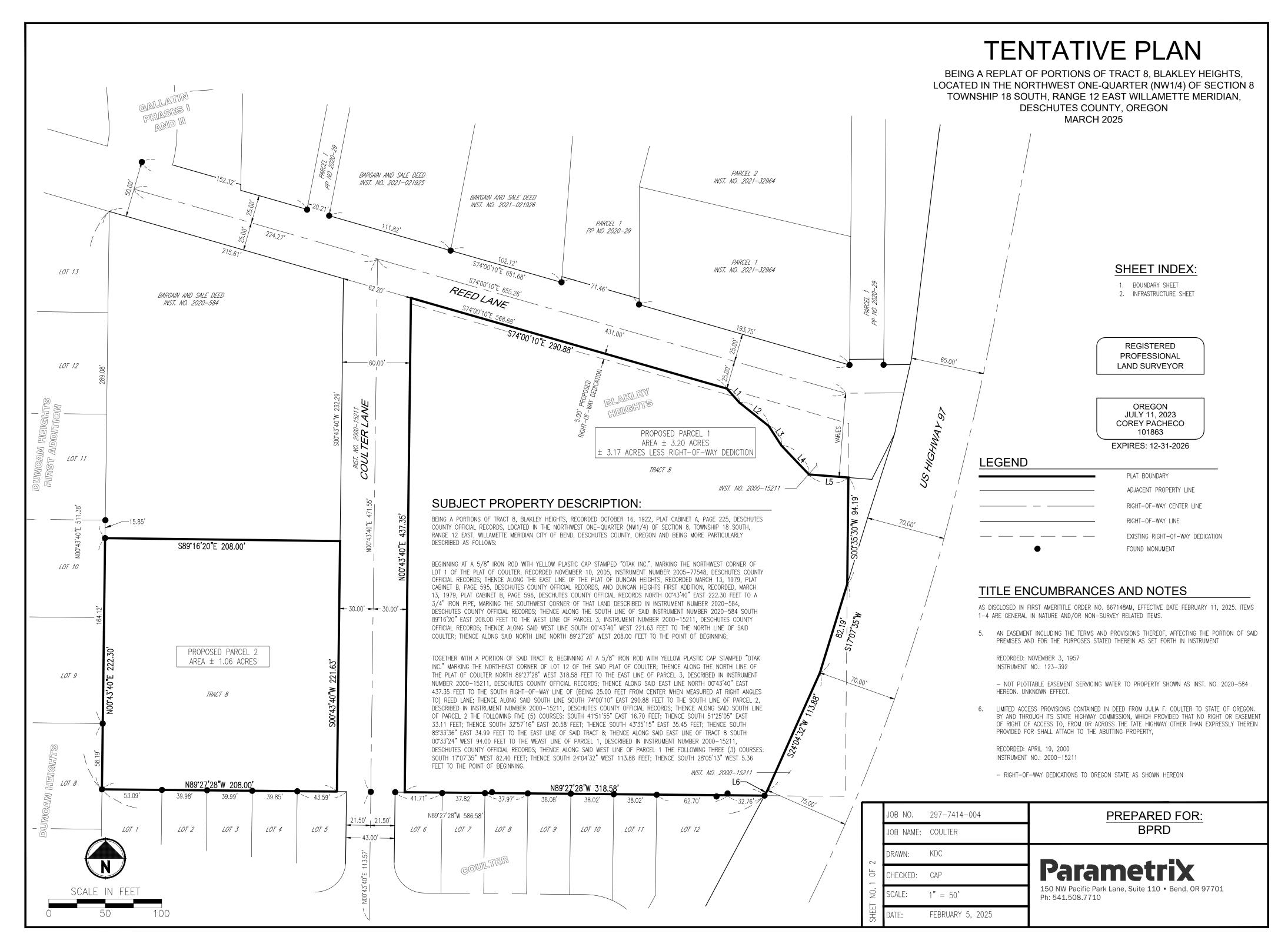
- Maple (or Pine) Glade Park: This name aligns with the Native Flora or Natural Feature naming
  category. Names in this category help illustrate the value the community places upon nature
  and the natural environment. The majority of trees on the site are pine and maple trees, and
  these trees are generally grouped together on the central portion of the property, with a glade,
  or open space on the western portion of the property.
- Coulter's Corner Park: This name aligns with the People naming category as this property was owned by the Coulter Family for over 50 years prior to the district purchasing the property in 2023. Based upon research by district staff and Rebekah Averette of the Deschutes Historical Museum (Attachment D), the family was well respected by the community. As reflected in the outreach summary (Attachment C), names associated with the Coulter family were a popular suggestion.

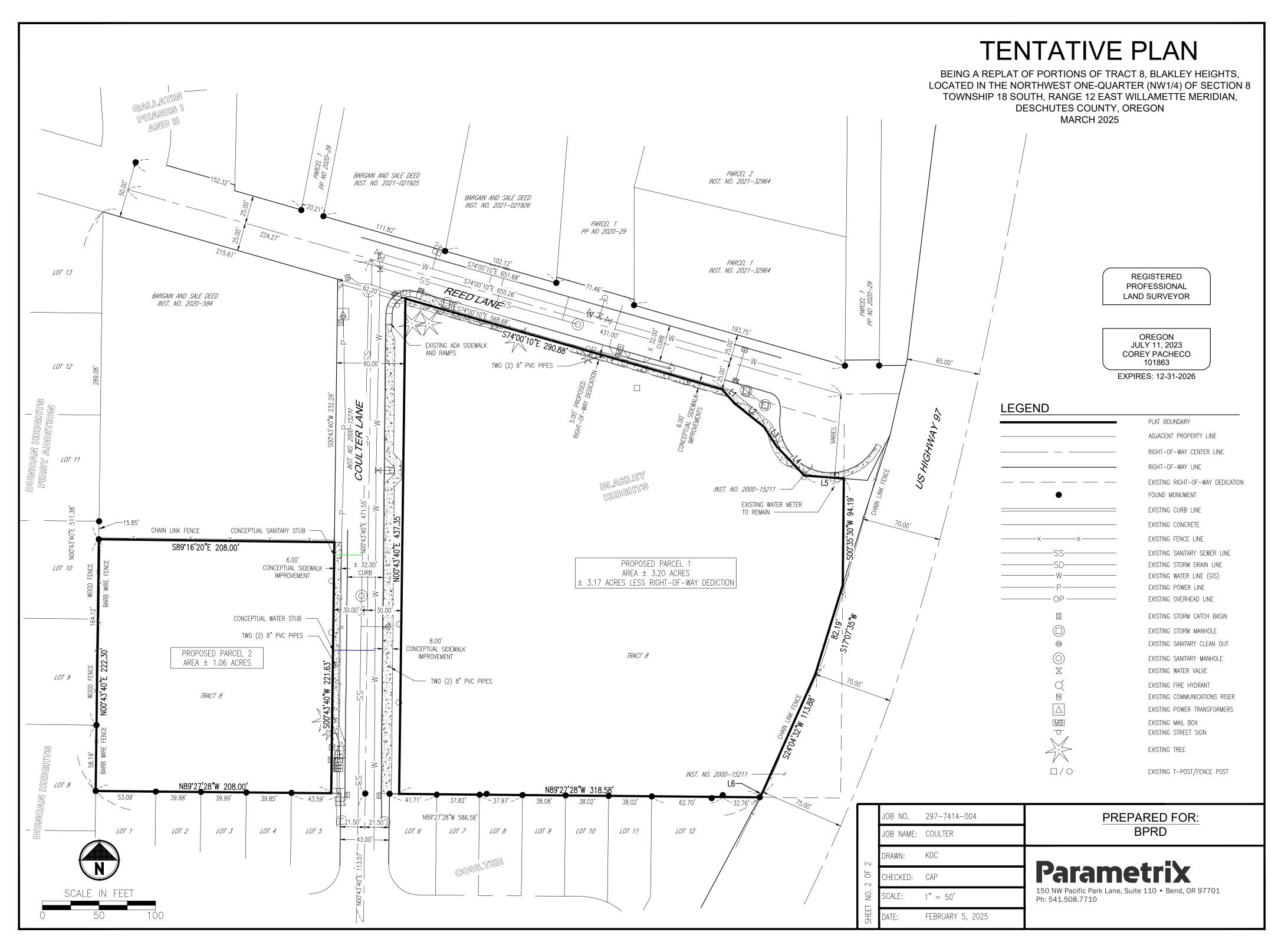
- Homestead Park: This name aligns with the People naming category as this was the homestead
  for the Coulter Family. As noted in Julia Coulter's obituary she enjoyed gardening, making
  porcelain dolls and ceramics, hand tooling leather, sewing, candy-making and cooking on the
  property. This name is a more subtle way of acknowledging the history of the property and the
  Coulter family. It also speaks to the history and development of this part of Bend more broadly,
  transitioning from rural homesteads to denser, suburban development.
- **Timber Grove Park**: This name aligns with the Native Flora or Natural Feature naming category. There are abundant trees on the property (many of which are expected to remain) and they are centrally located in a grove within the property. This also pays homage to Bend's history as a logging town.
- Parkway Pines Park: This name aligns with the Geographic naming category given the fact that the park site is located immediately adjacent to the Parkway (Highway 97). This name would help facilitate ease of locating the park by acknowledging the proximity of the park to the Parkway. In addition, this name also aligns with the Native Flora or Natural Feature naming category given the large number of pine trees on the property.

The Naming Committee can consider these recommended names, as well as any others when discussing potential names and making their recommendation to the district's board of directors. The board of directors is tentatively scheduled to review potential names for this park site at their regular meeting on October 21, 2025.

Attachment A: Site Map Attachment B: Site Photos

Attachment C: Round 1 Outreach Naming Summary
Attachment D: Coulter Family Historical Summary







Park Site view from the intersection of Reed Lane and SW Coulter Lane



Western portion of the park site



View of park site from cul-de-sac on north side of property



Looking SE at treed portion of property

# Attachment 2C

# Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site – Round 1 Outreach Naming Summary

## **Project Summary and Background Information**

The <u>Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site</u> is a 3.17-acre property located in southwest Bend. The property is boarded to the north by Reed Lane and to the east by Highway 97.

The district has been actively pursuing neighborhood park properties in underserved areas to meet the 2018 Park and Recreation District Comprehensive Plan goal of providing a park within one-half mile of every resident. The district purchased this 4.3-acre property in 2023 to fulfill Search Area 18. The property is being partitioned into two parcels, parcel 1 has been designated as a future neighborhood park. The 3.17-acre property will provide a neighborhood park for residents in Park Search Area 18.

The existing site condition is undeveloped but disturbed. The property used to have a residence that has been removed. The site is relatively flat with the high point being in the southeast corner. A variety of deciduous and evergreen trees of various sizes and species exist on the property, concentrated primarily in the center of the site.

Possible features to develop the site may include, but are not limited to: open lawn, picnic and gathering space, play area, paved path, and natural soft surface trails in accordance with the district's Development Standards for neighborhood parks.

### **Project Schedule**

The first round of public outreach began August 2025 with the goal of informing residents of the upcoming project and to solicit park name ideas.

The Informal Request for Proposals (I-RFP) RFP for the design consultant was sent to all landscape architecture and civil engineering firms on the district's *list of interested consultants* on August 21, 2025. Both the park name and design consultant contract are anticipated to go to the board for approval at the October 21, 2025 meeting.

The second round of public outreach will occur concurrently with survey and site investigation. The second round of public outreach will involve gathering information about what amenities people would like to see in the park. This information will inform the development of the three conceptual designs which are anticipated to be complete early 2026.

Two additional rounds of public outreach are anticipated to take place in the winter/spring of 2026. The focus will be to solicit input on conceptual design options that will then be refined into a preferred concept design. The preferred concept design is anticipated to go to the board for approval spring 2026.

The preferred concept design will be the basis for construction document development. Construction is anticipated to start spring 2027 and to be complete by the end of year 2027.

## **Naming Outreach**

Public outreach commenced the week of August 18 when approximately 970 postcards were mailed to residences within approximately .75-mile walking distance from the park property. The postcard provided information about the upcoming project, including the project website, contact information and a QR code and website for the naming survey.

The survey was live for three weeks, from August 18 – September 8, 2025. 21 individual survey responses were received in addition to 13 email comments. Many respondents submitted multiple name suggestions, resulting in 30 unique name suggestions.

Only a couple of respondents chose to explain their suggestion, and the explanation was generally related to the Coulter family, who owned the property prior to selling it to the district. The name suggestions came from individuals and were not discussed in a public forum. They leaned very heavily toward three themes; the Coulter family, flora and fauna (trees in particular) and physical geography (street names, canal, etc).

### **Name Suggestions**

The following name suggestions were received as part of the public outreach process, organized roughly by category. Most names were suggested only one time, however, if there is a number in parenthesis it indicates the number of times it was suggested by unique individuals. Explanations, when provided are also included.

#### **Coulter Family**

Coulter Park (6): Honor whomever donated or sold the land to park and rec instead of developing for profit - making it possible to become a park. Recognition to whoever made this happen.

Coulter's Corner Park

Coulter Pines Park (also flora and fauna related)

Foster Park: I do think this family deserves recognition for their history in Bend and fostering so many children.

**Homestead Park** 

### Flora and Fauna

Deer Xing Park (Deer Crossing Park)

Fawn Park

Maple Park: For all the maples on site

Mourning Dove Park

Owl's Nest Park

Pine Park

Timber Grove Park
Willow Park
Willow Way Park
Physical Geography
Canal Park
Canal View Park
Duncan Heights Park
Flowing Water Park
High Desert Park (note there is already an undeveloped park site with this name)
Merrie Park (2)
Merriewood Park
Parkway Pines Park (also flora and fauna related)
Reed Park
Reed Lane Park
Reedly Park
Southern Crossing Park
Miscellaneous
Grant Park
Hunter Park
Kauis Park (no explanation was provided, but the meaning of the name is "joyful" or "rejoice")
Nectar Park
The Coulter Family History
For additional context, below is an excerpt from Julia Coulter's obituary to provide a brief picture of the

For additional context, below is an excerpt from Julia Coulter's obituary to provide a brief picture of the Coulter family history. Two of her children (Neil and Julie) are still alive and living in Bend.

A native and lifelong resident of Bend, Julia Frances Coulter joined her heavenly father Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2013. She passed away peacefully at her home in the arms of her children.

She celebrated her 88th birthday on Aug. 17, surrounded by friends and family at the home where she lived the past 54 years.

Julia was born in 1925 to Hattie (Brown) Steppe and Frank Henderson. She attended Reid and Kenwood schools and graduated from Bend High School in 1943. During the war years, she joined her mother and brother Gerald at Shumates and Shevlin-Hixon mills making wooden ammunition boxes to support the war effort. She married Army veteran Ted (Theodore) William Coulter on December 21, 1947. Together they had four children – Neil, Mel, Julie and Carol.

After Ted was diagnosed with cancer, Julia chose to care for him at home so he could remain with his family. He passed away May 25, 1968. Those who watched Julia provide round-the-clock care, urged her to consider the nursing profession as a way of sharing her compassion and empathy with others. She enrolled in nursing classes at Central Oregon Community College, earning academic honors and becoming a licensed practical nurse. She began working at St. Charles Hospital while attending college and became a full-time nurse in 1970. Her devotion to patients and their families extended far beyond their physical needs. That commitment earned hospital employee of the year honors in 1972. She retired from St. Charles in 1991.

She enjoyed gardening on the five-acre farm south of Bend, making porcelain dolls and ceramics, hand-tooling leather, sewing, candy-making, cooking and watching Seattle Mariners baseball games. In her early years, she was an accomplished bowler and won many individual and team tournaments. Julia is survived by son Neil and daughter Julie, who live in Bend; son Mel, of Kuna, Idaho; and daughter Carol of Boise, Idaho; granddaughters Charisa and Calli Coulter, of Kuna and Chelsea (John) White of Nashville; and her only great grandson Brendan (Coulter) White. Survivors also include lifelong friends Helen Judy of West Lynn, Oregon; Don Manwiller and Alice McCullough, both of Bend. She was like a mother to many, including Glenda Peters and Debbie (Poole) Breadon and several foster children. Mother Hattie, father Frank, brother Gerald, daughter-in-law Brenda Coulter and lifelong friend Rae Manwiller preceded her in death.

#### **Attachment 2D**

# Coulter Family History:

The Coulter name in Bend can be traced to Gervase Hubert Coulter, born in PA in 1870. He married Winona Ashley, who was born in South Dakota, in 1904 (they were married in Montana). Gervase passed away from leukemia in 1925 in Montana. At the time, the couple had already had at least 7 children. Sometime after the death of Gervase, Winona made her way to Walla Walla, WA, where she married Joe Egg in 1927. He already had at least three children from his first marriage to Dorothy Egg (Dorothy Carvey Ackerman). Dorothy and Joe had lost at least one daughter to death when she was very young. When Joe and Winona married, she was 51 years old, and he was 39.

Winona was a very accomplished woman, active in the Moose Lodge (elected Moose Mother in 1950), a part of the Royal Neighbors of America (a group that helped underserved women with scholarships, insurance, etc.). Her gravestone at the Pilot Butte Cemetery reads, "Beloved Mother of Many".

Sometime between 1930 and 1940, the couple made their way to Bend. Joe Egg had a well-known blacksmith shop in downtown Bend.

One of Gervase and Winona's sons was named Theodore William Coulter. Theodore was born in 1913 and was a member of the Eagles. Theodore served for 32 months in active duty in the South Pacific and returned from service in 1944.

Theodore Coulter married Julia Henderson in 1947. Julia was the daughter of Hattie and Frank Henderson. She attended Reid and Kenwood Schools and graduated from Bend High School in 1943. Julia did have one early marriage at the age of 17 to an 18-year-old soldier named Norman Garlington in 1943. The couple were divorced by 1946 and had no children. The stated reason for divorce was "cruelty". Julia married Theodore shortly after at Trinity Episcopal in a well-documented and well-attended wedding. The couple would eventually have four children.

Julia's mother, Hattie, remarried Joe Steppe in Bend in 1949. Julia was the matron-of-honor at her mother's second wedding.

The extended Egg/Coulter/Henderson family seems to have been close knit and there are many mentions of them in the society columns of the Bulletin attending various bowling events, parties, showers, etc.

Julia's mother and stepfather both worked for Shevlin-Hixon and her family reports that Julia also worked at the Shevlin-Hixon box factory during the war.

Theodore Coulter died of glioblastoma in 1955 and is buried in Pilot Butte Cemetery. After his death, Julia attended college, became a nurse, and worked at St. Charles. She received "Hospital Employee of the Year" in 1972 and retired in 1991.

Summary: This is just an initial survey of the Coulter family and there is much more to discover. For the purposes of the Naming Committee, at this point it doesn't appear there is anything that would make naming a park after them contentious. They seem to have been a well-connected, civic-oriented, close-knit, and involved family. They were working class and the family was mostly involved in the timber/lumber/blacksmith industries.