

**Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department**  
**Memorandum 10-02**

**DATE:** January 28, 2010

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Joyce Downing and City Council Members

**FROM:** Bill Simmons, City Manager *WPS*  
Amanda Peterson, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director *AP*

**SUBJECT:** CR-24 - Park Naming Request for Chief Gunderson

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommend the approval of the attached Resolution which would name the "Grant Ditch Trail" the "C.A. "Gundy" Gunderson Trail." A Parks and Recreation Advisory Board action form supporting this recommendation is attached.

**BACKGROUND:** The attached request was submitted to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on July 24, 2009, and originally discussed at the board meeting on August 10, 2009. The request was for the renaming of North Park in Fox Run after Chief C.A. "Gundy" Gunderson. Criteria for naming or renaming a park were considered by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in accordance with resolution 09-112, including the 90 day waiting period after the receipt of the request.

Between August 10, 2009 and November 9, 2009, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board posted the request as a discussion item on the agenda each month. At the November 9, 2009 meeting, Officer Ron Berens and Commander Beth Carmosino spoke to the board in favor of this request.

The board feels that it is important to honor the former Chief of Police for his service to the Police Department, as well as his passion and dedication to the City as a whole. However, there were concerns about naming a park for an employee. Due to North Park not meeting the requirements of resolution 09-112 (North Park was named less than ten years ago), and this concern, a decision was made by the board to recommend the naming of Grant Ditch Trail after Chief Gunderson.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:** A metal sign on a wooden post would be erected at each end of the trail, at an anticipated cost of approximately \$150.00. This cost would be absorbed into the existing Parks Maintenance budget.

**STAFF REFERENCE:**

If Councilmembers have any comments or questions, you may contact Amanda Peterson at [apeterson@northglenn.org](mailto:apeterson@northglenn.org) or at 303.450.8950.

***PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD***

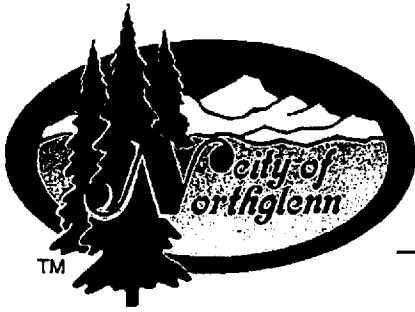
***ACTION FORM***

**SUBJECT:** Chief Gunderson Naming Request

**DATE:** 11/9/09

**ACTION/  
RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend naming the Grant Ditch Trail from I-25 East to  
Washington St. in honor of Chief Gunderson.

***Approved Unanimously***



**NORTHGLENN POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**11701 Community Center Drive**  
**P.O. Box 330061**  
**Northglenn, Colorado 80233-8061**  
**Phone 303- 450-8892**  
**FAX 303- 450-8896**  
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July 24, 2009

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board  
City of Northglenn

Re: Dedication of North Park

I would respectfully request that the Central Park, located in the Fox Run neighborhood be re-dedicated in honor of Chief Carlisle A. 'Gundy' Gunderson.

'Gundy' Gunderson started his career with the City of Northglenn in 1971 as a Police Lieutenant. By 1973, he had been promoted to Captain. During a change of administration in 1984, 'Gundy' Gunderson served as the Acting Chief of Police. In 1989, he was promoted to Chief of Police, a position he held until 2001 when he retired.

His dedication to our community and the police department was demonstrated time and time again. 'Gundy' Gunderson was living in Littleton when he was hired in Northglenn. He moved his family to Northglenn almost immediately. 'Gundy' was a member of Northglenn's original SWAT unit, and oversaw its establishment in 1971. This was one of the first SWAT teams in the north Denver metro area. Again in 1980 he was instrumental in establishing a new SWAT unit. As Patrol Division Captain, he assisted with obtaining national accreditation for the police department.

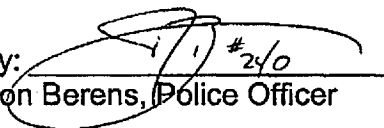
His best achievement however was introducing the concept of community policing to the city of Northglenn. In early 1990's, Chief Gunderson oversaw a federal grant through the Clinton administration which placed two additional full-time police officers in the city's highest crime rate area. Along with this initiative, CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) was introduced to apartment complexes and new businesses in an effort to curb criminal activity. Crime-Free Multi-Housing was also introduced and implemented city wide. This program allowed apartment managers the ability to evict convicted felons, and individuals who engage in criminal activity at apartment properties. This program became so successful, many neighboring communities, to include unincorporated Adams County, Broomfield and Thornton adopted similar programs.

In 1998, Chief Gunderson approved the implementation of Citizens' and Teens' Police Academies. These programs introduced Northglenn citizen's to the inner-workings of the Police Department. As a result of this successful program, the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association of Northglenn was created. Through this program, a network of volunteers was established which continues to serve the community to this day.

I have discussed this with both Council member Piaz, and Miller, and both have agreed to sponsor this proposal.

'Gundy' Gunderson ultimately served his community and the Police Department for over thirty years, over twelve as Chief of Police. 'Gundy' Gunderson demonstrated that he was a great community member and a great law enforcement leader.

By:

 #240  
Ron Berens, Police Officer

Cc: Russell L. Van Houten  
Chief of Police

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR DOWNING

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-24  
Series of 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Series of 2010

A RESOLUTION CHANGING THE NAME OF THE GRANT DITCH TRAIL TO THE C.A. "GUNDY" GUNDERSON TRAIL

WHEREAS, the Grant Ditch Trail is an amenity enjoyed by many visitors on a daily basis and is a great asset to the City of Northglenn; and

WHEREAS, former Chief of Police C.A. "Gundy" Gunderson exhibited exemplary dedication to the City of Northglenn and provided invaluable service to the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board unanimously approved action on November 9, 2009 to recommend to Council that the trail's name be changed, and City Council wishes to express their gratitude for Chief Gunderson's many contributions to the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

The trail heretofore known as the Grant Ditch Trail shall hereafter be officially known as the:

C.A. "GUNDY" GUNDERSON TRAIL

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOYCE DOWNING  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHANNA SMALL, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
COREY Y. HOFFMANN  
City Attorney