



From: Ken Elwert, Director Parks and Natural Resources
To: Naming Standing Committee
Date: March 19, 2026
Re: Request to rename Harding Green Space

Background: In 2005, Rochester Hills residents passed a .3 mill 10-year millage to acquire and preserve natural green space. The Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB) was formed the same year for the purpose of developing strategies and making recommendations to:

- Permanently preserve natural green spaces, wildlife habitats, and scenic views;
- Protect woodlands, wetlands, rivers and streams;
- Expand the Clinton River Greenway and other trail corridors

Recently, Mayor Barnett received a request from a community member to consider re-naming a City Green Space after Gerald (Jerry) Carvey in recognition of his service to the City. Mr. Carvey is a founding member of the Green Space Advisory Board from 2005 until 2017, and served as Chairperson for many years since its founding. The City's green space system now consists of eight properties totaling nearly 140 acres. In addition, the Green Space Trust created from this millage to maintain the system and purchase future properties is currently at \$6.7 million. This fund allows preservation activities and stewardship projects to occur yearly to keep the Green Space properties natural and serving their preservation purpose. In addition, Mr. Carvey has been a Rochester Rotarian for over 55 years, was given the statewide Senior of the Year for Leadership Award from mParks in 2017, and served on City Council at the inception of Rochester Hills (changing from Avon Township) from 1984 to 1991.

Administration is requesting that the requirement from the Naming Policy that an individual must be deceased for three years to be considered for naming be waived because Mr. Carvey has been inactive in City politics and the Green Space Advisory Board for several years. His significant contribution to the City is worth honoring now.

The recommendation is to replace the name Harding Green Space with (Gerald) Carvey Green Space. If recommended by the Naming Standing Committee, the next step would be to take to City Council for final approval.