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# Mayor wants city park named for Cesar Chavez

A proposal to rename a small neighborhood park in Watsonville for Cesar Chavez will go before the city Recreation and Parks Commission next Monday.

Mayor Oscar Rios raised the idea at the last City Council meeting to rename Linear Park for the farm worker union leader who died earlier this year.

Given the city's large Latino population and the number of those who earn a living working in the fields, renaming the park for Chavez would be a fitting gesture, Rios said.

The 1.4-acre park on Front and Union street has been improved three times over its 72 years. Use varies with the seasons, but the park is generally well-used by neighborhood chil-

dren.

The city has approved \$150,000 in redevelopment money for yet another upgrade, including replacing current play equipment with new, more modern apparatus. Additional lighting has already been installed.

The council has also approved in concept a plan to use a city-owned Front Street lot next to the park for a Head Start program.

The Santa Cruz Community Counseling Center Inc. is seeking a 10-year agreement for the vacant property, which would be developed with a portable building and a playground area.

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting will begin at 6:30 at City Hall.

— Judy Brill