

Candace B. Hollingsworth  
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas  
City Administrator

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**City of Hyattsville to rename Magruder Park after removing segregationist language from deed**

HYATTSVILLE, MD - Hyattsville's City Council has begun the process of renaming the City's Magruder Park, in conjunction with efforts to remove segregationist language from the park's original deed. Community members are invited to suggest new names for the park from October 1, 2020 – November 15, 2020. The park will be officially renamed in 2021 to reflect its current use as a welcoming gathering place for all.

The original 1927 deed for Magruder Park is currently being revised to strike language that reads, "only Caucasian inhabitants of Hyattsville are permitted to use the park." The effort to rename the park and update the deed was introduced as a motion by Councilmember Joseph Solomon in March of 2019.

Hyattsville's City Council is looking for new names for the park that are inviting, inclusive, unifying and can stand the test of time. Suggestions can be submitted in a variety of ways before the November 15th deadline, including:

- An online suggestion form at [www.hyattsville.org/namethepark](http://www.hyattsville.org/namethepark)
- Postage paid suggestion cards included with the October edition of the Hyattsville Reporter, mailed to City of Hyattsville residences
- Paper suggestion forms located at a new drop box next to the Magruder Park Recreation Center, 3911 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville, MD
- By voicemail at (301) 985-5039

Submissions will be reviewed by the City's Race and Equity Task Force and Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee in early December. The top names selected by those committees will be presented to City Council for consideration in early 2021.

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781 | 301-985-5000 | [www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org)

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Hyattsville's Mayor Candace Hollingsworth expressed her enthusiasm for the launch of this campaign, sharing, "This park is a place of pride for Hyattsville, regularly used for everything from birthday parties to, in recent weeks, rallies and gatherings in defense of Black life. I know that I echo the sentiments of thousands of residents when I say I am glad to see the City move forward to select a name for our common square that better reflects our community and this moment. I am excited for the community to play a part in the process."

Magruder Park is located at 3911 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781. It is open from dawn to dusk. More information about the renaming campaign can be found at [www.hyattsville.org/namethepark](http://www.hyattsville.org/namethepark).

The City of Hyattsville is a diverse and welcoming community that celebrates small town character, urban energy, and environmental stewardship. The City's municipal government aims to provide leadership and effective services that enhance resident's quality of life. For more information visit [www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org).

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