



**ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**P L A N N I N G   D E P A R T M E N T**

**Sandra Rivera**  
Interim Agency Director

Agenda Item: 4  
October 13, 2022

**Albert Lopez**  
Planning Director

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October 3, 2022

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Alameda  
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Board Members:

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC STREET NAME CHANGE FROM VIA MERCADO TO VIA WILMA CHAN**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council (EMAC): On September 13, 2022, the EMAC unanimously recommended approval of the Public Street Name Change application.

Transportation and Planning Committee: Directed staff to coordinate with the District 3 office and the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association to address concerns with the process of selecting the street name.

Planning Staff: Adopt the attached the resolution changing Via Mercado to Via Wilma Chan.

**DISCUSSION:**

This proposal to rename a local street in the San Lorenzo community is to honor the late Supervisor Wilma Chan who passed suddenly November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. The process to rename a street requires specific noticing and coordination between County agencies, and in this case also included community input to select the street and name.

Physical Features: The subject public street spans from Via Arriba to Hesperian Blvd, measuring approximately 300 feet long and 60 feet wide. As there are no other intersecting streets, Via Mercado is essentially one block long.

Adjacent Area: Both sides of Via Mercado are vacant land, with the exception of the existing Kavanaugh Liquors building, located on the corner of Hesperian and Via Mercado. The subject street is located within the San Lorenzo Village Center Specific Plan, with majority commercial uses within the immediate area. The Board of Supervisors previously approved a mixed-use development with approximately 160 residential rental units and approximately 12,000 square feet of commercial retail uses on the adjacent lots on either side of Via Mercado. If the development is constructed and the name change approved, Via Wilma Chan would essentially bisect this development.

Public Noticing: As required for renaming streets pursuant to Streets and Highways Code section 970.5, public notices for this item were posted in at least three locations along Via Mercado.

Notices were also posted in the surrounding area and mailed to properties within a 500-foot radius from the street edges, and the agenda was posted at the County Administration Building.

### **ANALYSIS**


Selecting **Via Wilma Chan** is consistent with the other street names in San Lorenzo that use this naming convention and appears to be supported in the community as well. It should be noted that Wilma Chan Way was also considered but was not selected since the City of Alameda is also honoring the late Supervisor with that street name.

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council considered the item and unanimously voted to approve the name change.

At the October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, Transportation and Planning (T&P) Committee of the Board the item was presented by staff prior to going to the full Board for consideration. There was some concern raised by a member of the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association (HOA) that they were not appropriately consulted on the name change. While staff did receive a letter (June 29, 2022) from the HOA indicating their support for the name change, the T&P committee, in an abundance of caution, directed staff to coordinate with the District 3 office and the HOA before the item is heard at the full Board. An HOA meeting is scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup>, and the full Board is scheduled to hear the item on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, by which time staff believes the HOA concern will be addressed.

Staff believes the name change is an appropriate way to honor the late Supervisor, and recommends your Board approve the name change from Via Mercado to Via Wilma Chan.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Sandra Rivera, Interim Agency Director  
Community Development Agency

**Attachments:** Resolution  
Map  
Letter from SLVHOA dated June 29, 2022

**RESOLUTION NUMBER R-2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ORDERING THAT THE NAME OF THE PUBLIC STREET “VIA MERCADO” BE CHANGED TO “VIA WILMA CHAN” IN RECOGNITION AND MEMORY OF SUPERVISOR WILMA CHAN**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Alameda initiated the Public Street Name Change proposal, to change the name of the County public right of way “Via Mercado” to “Via Wilma Chan” in recognition and memory of the late District 3 Supervisor Wilma Chan. The street spans approximately 300 feet and spans between Via Arriba and Hesperian Blvd. in the San Lorenzo area of unincorporated Alameda County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council did consider the street name change at their September 13, 2022, meeting and unanimously approved the name change; and

**WHEREAS**, a letter of support was provided by the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association dated June 29, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board’s October 3, 2022 Transportation and Planning committee did hold a virtual public hearing to consider the Public Street Name Change proposal and directed staff to coordinate with the District 3 office and the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association to resolve any outstanding concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, notice of public hearing specific to street name changes pursuant to Streets and Highways Code section 970.5 was given as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors did hold a public hearing at 10:00 am on Thursday, October 13, 2022 in the Board of Supervisors’ Chambers, Fifth Floor, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, California, to consider the proposal and any objections thereto; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors did hear and consider all reports, recommendations, and testimony presented; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors does hereby approve and order the name of the County public street and right of way “Via Mercado” to “Via Wilma Chan” in recognition and memory of Supervisor Wilma Chan, and directs the Public Works Agency to create and install new signage.

**THE FOREGOING** was **PASSED** and **ADOPTED** by a majority vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda this 13th day of October 2022, by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**EXCUSED:**

**ABSTAIN:**


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Keith Carson, President  
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
Donna R. Ziegler, County Counsel

By: DocuSigned by:  
  
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Heather Littlejohn Goodman  
Deputy County Counsel

# Location





377 Paseo Grande  
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Email: [info@slvha.com](mailto:info@slvha.com)

Website: [www.slvha.com](http://www.slvha.com)

June 29, 2022

Sandra Rivera  
Community Development Agency  
224 West Winton Avenue  
Hayward, CA. 94544

Dear Sandra Rivera,

The San Lorenzo Village Homes Association is in favor of renaming the street, Via Mercado to Via Wilma Chan, and the board has signed a letter of support to Supervisor Dave Brown.

Recently San Lorenzo Village Homes Association was informed this letter was to be addressed to you. Please know this letter as acknowledgement of this correction, and please accept the letter of support to Supervisor Brown to your attention.

Thank you for your understanding and please contact me with questions.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Jones  
Administrator  
San Lorenzo Village Homes Association

San Lorenzo Village Board of Directors

Diane Wydler – President, Taylor Aston-Nielsen – Vice President, Kris Palmer – Secretary/Treasurer,

Kathie Ready – Director at Large, Phil Cutino, Director at Large





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San Lorenzo, CA 94580  
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Re: Letter of Support for Street Name Honoring Wilma Chan

Dear Supervisor Brown,

The San Lorenzo Village Homes Association Board of Directors writes to formally express our support in changing the street currently named Via Mercado in San Lorenzo, CA to a name that will recognize prior Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan. The Association would appreciate being included in determining the new street name to honor Ms. Chan's memory and feels the action would be well received within the community.

Ms. Chan was a respected friend and advocate for San Lorenzo and the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association. We believe the requested street name change will have a long-lasting impact on our community and serve as a constant reminder of her goodwill and contributions to the village. Since Via Mercado has no residents, we anticipate no local inconvenience. Instead, the street will serve as a reminder of Ms. Chan's public service, helping to keep her in our minds and hearts.

Accordingly, we thank you for your consideration and support in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Wydler, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Taylor Aston-Nielsen, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kris Palmer, Secretary/Treasurer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Cutino, Director

  
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John Chung, Director