

1 [Victoria Manalo Draves Park.]

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3 **Resolution urging the Recreation and Park Commission to name the new park that is to**  
4 **be built in the old Bessie Carmichael Elementary School site (on Sherman and Folsom)**  
5 **as Victoria Manalo Draves Park.**

6  
7 WHEREAS, For many years, the City and County of San Francisco has failed to  
8 recognize one of its distinguished women, Asian American/Filipino American, US Olympic  
9 athlete, Victoria Manalo Draves; and,

10 WHEREAS, Victoria Manalo Draves won the 1942 US Junior National Diving  
11 championship and the 1946, 1947, and 1948 US National Diving Championships platform  
12 diving gold medal, as well as the 1948 springboard gold medal; and,

13 WHEREAS, In the 1948 Olympic Games, Victoria Manalo Draves achieved many firsts:  
14 the first woman in Olympic history to win gold medals in both springboard and platform diving  
15 events in the same games, the only swimmer or diver to win two individual gold medals, the  
16 first American woman of Filipino heritage to win an Olympic gold medal in diving, and to date,  
17 is the only woman of Filipino ancestry to win an Olympic gold medal; and,

18 WHEREAS, Victoria Manalo Draves was recognized in the 1948 edition of *Life*  
19 *Magazine* as one of the top athletes at the 1948 Olympics, named Athlete of the Year by the  
20 Helms Athletic Foundation of Southern California in 1948, selected as an All-American for the  
21 5-meter and 10-meter platform dive events on the National AAU All-American Woman's  
22 Swimming Team in 1949, and has been inducted to the International Swimming Hall of Fame  
23 in Florida; and,

1           WHEREAS, Victoria Manalo Draves was born in San Francisco to an English  
2 immigrant mother and a Filipino immigrant father, living in the South of Market (SOMA)  
3 Neighborhood for 23 years; and,

4           WHEREAS, Victoria Manalo Draves studied at the then, Fairmont Elementary School,  
5 when Bessie Carmichael was the Principal, went on to attend Commerce High School, and  
6 later graduated from San Francisco Junior College; and,

7           WHEREAS, Victoria Manalo Draves faced discrimination when San Francisco's Nob  
8 Hill diving club required that she drop her father's Filipino name, Manalo, and take her  
9 mother's maiden name, Taylor, in order to be acceptable to represent the organization; and,

10           WHEREAS, When she began to use her actual last name, Victoria Manalo Draves  
11 experienced more discrimination even from her own swim club, the Oakland Athens Athletic  
12 Club, which would not have her compete at a 1945 diving meet at the Fairmont hotel in San  
13 Francisco; and,

14           WHEREAS, Victoria Manalo Draves is an important role model to the more than  
15 100,000 Asian American (more than 40,000 Filipino American) residents of the City and  
16 County of San Francisco; and,

17           WHEREAS, The new park serves as a needed resource for the South of Market  
18 (SOMA) Neighborhood, a neighborhood that has a great concentration of immigrants and  
19 people of color; and,

20           WHEREAS, The South of Market (SOMA) community has initiated and garnered  
21 community wide support by gathering petitions and making presentations to various  
22 community organizations; and,

23           WHEREAS, The South of Market Project Area Committee (SOMPAC), the SOMA  
24 advisory body of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, voted unanimously to name the  
25 new park after Victoria Manalo Draves; and,

1           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Immigrants Rights Commission voted unanimously to  
2 recognize the invaluable and tremendous contributions of the Filipina and Asian-American  
3 immigrant, US Olympic athlete and Swimming Hall of Famer, SOMA resident and San  
4 Francisco citizen Victoria Manalo Draves, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That Board of Supervisors strongly urges the Recreation and Park  
6 Commission to name the former Bessie Carmichael Elementary School site (on Sherman and  
7 Folsom) as the Victoria Manalo Draves Park; and, be it

8           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall send a copy of this resolution  
9 to the Mayor's Office, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services (MONS), Mayor's Office of  
10 Community Development (MOCD), the Recreation and Park Commission, and the  
11 Department of Recreation and Park.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 050468

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the Recreation and Park Commission to name the new park that is to be built in the old Bessie Carmichael Elementary School site (on Sherman and Folsom) as Victoria Manalo Draves Park.

March 22, 2005 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 050468

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 22, 2005 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Gloria L. Young
Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

APR 01 2005

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Date: April 1, 2005

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter.

Handwritten signature
Clerk of the Board

File No.
050468