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**ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX COUNTY**

0-2024

ORDINANCE NO. 00011 AUTHORITY FOR ORDINANCE: N.J.S.A. 40A:41A-38(G)

PROPOSED BY: COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORITY FOR ACTION: E.C.A.C. 2-11(M)
E.C.A.C. 2-39I

ORDINANCE NAMING THE AREA OF ESSEX COUNTY BRANCH BROOK PARK BETWEEN THE HELLER PARKWAY ENTRANCE AND THE NJ TRANSIT STATION AS THE "ESSEX COUNTY PATRICIA CHAMBERS GROVE" IN RECOGNITION OF PHILANTHROPIST AND BRANCH BROOK PARK ALLIANCE FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER PATRICIA CHAMBERS

WHEREAS, the Essex County Board of County Commissioners is vested with the exclusive power to name county buildings, roads and other facilities by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Executive has presented a proposal to name the area of Essex County Branch Brook Park between the Heller Parkway entrance and the NJ Transit rail station as the "Essex County Patricia Chambers Grove" in recognition of philanthropist and Branch Brook Park Alliance founding board member Patricia Chambers; and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Executive, with the support of the Board of Commissioners, is undertaking a project to revitalize an area of Essex County Branch Brook Park that is located north of the Heller Parkway entrance on the western side of Branch Brook Drive between Heller Parkway and the NJ Transit rail station on North 5th Street. The project includes creating a formal seating area with walkways, enhanced landscaping, tree plantings and new ornamental pathway lighting. The improvements will transform a long overlooked and underutilized area of the park into a welcoming gateway into the park and formally linking it to the adjacent North Ward neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Chambers, along with Barbara Bell Coleman and the late Pat Ryan, is a Founding Board Member of the Branch Brook Park Alliance. The women understood the historical importance of Branch Brook Park, which opened in 1895 and is the first county park created in the United States, and recognized the park required

additional attention above what was being provided by the County Administration at the time. Formed in 1999, the mission of the Alliance is to revitalize and care for Essex County Branch Brook Park; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Patricia Chambers and other Alliance board members, the organization has raised and invested over \$60 million to update, preserve and enhance every section of Essex County Branch Brook Park; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Chambers and the Branch Brook Park Alliance have been extraordinary partners with the County of Essex and have coordinated their fundraising activities to support Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo's vision of revitalizing Essex County Branch Brook Park and transforming the park into a destination. Numerous projects have been undertaken by the County and Alliance, including (in a general list) the modernization of playgrounds, baseball, softball, soccer, tennis and basketball facilities; the preservation of historic structures such as the Ballantine Gates and Octagon gazebo; planting of Cherry Blossom trees and other landscaping; installation of a new rubberized walking track and football field; and restoration of the Prudential Concert Grove and Kiyofumi Sakaguchi Memorial Grove (Kiyo Grove); and

WHEREAS, Patricia Chambers also is engaged in other philanthropic organizations that work to improve the quality of life, provide exceptional educational opportunities for children with disabilities and promote the preservation and enhancement of open spaces. These include serving as a member of the Board of Trustees of the MCJ Amelior Foundation which has provided immeasurable support and guidance to a broad range of organizations, contributing grants to support the arts and culture, health and education, and empower residents to become independent and overcome poverty; a member of the Board of Trustees of the P.G. Chambers School in Cedar Knolls which provides an educational setting to prepare children with disabilities to engage in their community, increase their confidence and expand their capacity to lead full and productive lives; member of the Advisory Board of the Central Park Conservancy in New York City and a Founding Board Member of the Women's Association of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Chambers also is the owner and Chairwoman of the Board of Lambert Bridge Winery in Sonoma County, California; and

WHEREAS, Dedicating the “Essex County Patricia Chambers Grove” in Essex County Branch Brook Park is a fitting tribute to an individual who has placed the needs of others first and worked to improve her community so others can benefit and prosper.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX as follows:

1. That the area of Essex County Branch Brook Park north of the Heller Parkway entrance on the western side of Branch Brook Drive between Heller Parkway and the NJ Transit rail station on North 5th Street be named as the “Essex County Patricia Chambers Grove” in recognition of philanthropist and Branch Brook Park Alliance founding board member Patricia Chambers.
2. That a public hearing on this Ordinance shall be held on August 14, 2024, at 5 p.m at Montclair Town Hall, 205 Claremont Avenue, Montclair, NJ 07042.
3. That the Clerk of the Board shall publish and post notice of this Ordinance as required by N.J.S.A. 40:41A-142.
4. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
5. That upon adoption, copies of this Ordinance shall be forwarded to Commissioner President Carlos Pomares, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Essex County Administrator Robert Jackson, Parks Director Dan Salvante, Essex County Public Works Director Sanjeev Varghese and Patricia Chambers.

Approved as to form and legality

ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

RECORD OF VOTE: X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent

FIRST READING

Moved by Commissioner Sebold
Seconded by Commissioner Mercado

SECOND READING

Moved by Commissioner Gill
Seconded by Commissioner Mercado

Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS
COOPER, V.P.	✓				COOPER, V.P.				
GILL	✓				GILL				X
GRAHAM					GRAHAM	X			
LUCIANO	✓			✓	LUCIANO				X
MERCADO	✓				MERCADO	X			
MURRAY-THOMAS				✓	MURRAY-THOMAS	X			
POMARES, President	✓				POMARES, President	X			
RICHARDSON				✓	RICHARDSON	X			
SEBOLD	✓				SEBOLD				X

Date Mailed to Municipal Clerks 7-18-24
Date Public Hearing 8-14-24
Date Published 7-23-24

Date Mailed to Municipal Clerks 8/21/24
Date Published 8/26/24

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Ordinance was
 adopted () defeated () tabled by roll call vote at
regular meeting of the Board of County
Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey, held
on 8-14-24

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Ordinance
was adopted () defeated () tabled by roll
call vote at regular meeting of the
Board of County Commissioners of the County of
Essex, New Jersey, held on 8-14-24

[Signature]
Carlos M. Pomares, President

[Signature]
Carlos M. Pomares, President

The foregoing Ordinance has been duly presented to me on
I hereby approve () disapprove the same on
Returned and filed 8-21-24

8-15-24
8-21-24

[Signature]
KATHY R. BROWN, DEPUTY CLERK

[Signature]
Joseph N. DiVincenzo Jr., County Executive

Patricia Chambers
07/08/2024

RECEIVED
CLERK OF THE BOARD
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