

January 31, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
City Hall, 200 W Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Re: Proposal to rename Squaw Peak Drive

Dear Mayor,

This letter transmits my **STRONG** opposition to renaming Squaw Peak Drive.

The drive is the main entrance to the Phoenix Mountain Preserve. While the Piestewa Peak is unique in the Preserve, the entire preserve is over 7,500 spectacular acres etched with miles of beautiful hiking trails. As I live on 22nd Place, I regularly walk the street on my way to hike these beautiful trails.

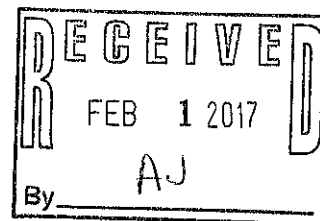
While I certainly understand the sensitivity of Native Americans to the use of the word "Squaw," I did not appreciate the underhanded means by which the Peak was renamed "Piestewa" by Governor Napolitano. I especially did not approve of the name that was selected, as it evokes memories of unnecessary and controversial war.

I ask that you take my comments to heart and either leave the name of the Drive as is, or select a suitable name that reflects the beauty of the neighborhood and the entire Preserve. A pure and simple "Mountain Preserve Drive" would suffice, if it is necessary to change the name at all.

Sincerely,



Edward Blundon
7528 N 22nd Place
Phoenix, AZ 85020



January 31, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
City Hall, 200 W Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Re: Proposal to rename Squaw Peak Drive

Dear Mayor,

The purpose of this letter is to register my STRONG opposition to renaming Squaw Peak Drive.

I live on 22nd Place, within easy walking distance to Squaw Peak Drive, and I do regularly walk the street on my way to hike the beautiful peak in Phoenix Mountain Park. I was not at all pleased when the peak was renamed Piestewa Peak.

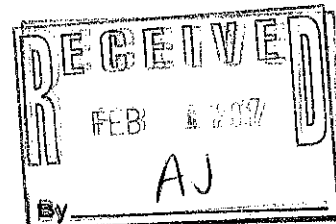
While I certainly understand the sensitivity of Native Americans to the use of the word "Squaw," I ask that you do as Governor Napolitano failed to do when she heavily handedly renamed the Peak to commemorate a Native American who was killed in the Iraq War. I ask that you take my comments to heart and either leave the name of the Drive as is, or select a suitable name that reflects the beauty of the neighborhood we all enjoy celebrating, rather than the name of an individual whose memory unfortunately is associated with a serious mistake made by our country.

Since the drive leads to a beautiful natural preserve, which is far more than just the peak, perhaps you could consider naming the street "Mountain Preserve Drive" if it is necessary to change it at all.

Sincerely,



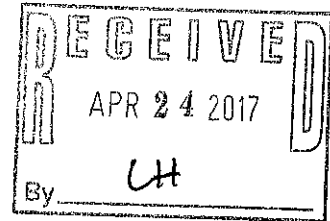
Frances Howard
7528 N 22nd Place
Phoenix, AZ 85020



Linda Grass
2315 E. Squaw Peak Drive • Phoenix, AZ 85016

April 21, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
Phoenix City Hall, 11th Floor
200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003



RE: POTENTIAL RENAMING OF SQUAW PEAK DRIVE

As a long-time homeowner on Squaw Peak Drive and a Phoenix resident since 1951, I am concerned about what appears to be your plan to change the name of Squaw Peak Drive, ignoring the wishes of the homeowners as indicated in our recent petition signed by a majority of the homeowners to retain the current street name, as well as ignoring the existing city rules *requiring* approval by the homeowners.

If you ignore the petition of the homeowners to retain the current name, you are once again circumventing existing city regulations, just as Janet Napolitano ignored federal regulations for renaming a geographic feature when she renamed Squaw Peak without consideration for the length of time that must be allotted before considering a name change such as that for Piestewa Peak. Of course, we know that the Peak has since been renamed (though it took the federal U.S. Board on Geographic Names five years to recognize that name change). Most of the locals, not just homeowners in this area, seem to still refer to it as Squaw Peak.

Having lived in Phoenix for so many years, I have a deep appreciation for our Native American friends. My hairdresser is Native American, I've read with interest enlightening books about the Dine' and Hopi, and did a detailed research paper about the Navajo/Hopi land dispute while getting my degree, so I don't take their concerns about the term "squaw" lightly, but I did not name the street. I asked my hairdresser's opinion of the concern about the term "squaw" being offensive to Native Americans and was told she thinks it is being drastically overblown by a few and the name doesn't need to be changed.

What will you and the city council representatives do if the Native American community decides to be offended by the name "Indian School Road"? It would seem that the reminder of the impact the Phoenix Indian School and other similar boarding schools had on many young Native Americans and their families might be at least as offensive, if not more so, than the term "squaw". This attempt at assimilating Native Americans into white society in the late 19th and early 20th centuries ripped young girls and boys from their families and move them hundreds of miles away, often to endure deplorable conditions or inhumane treatment, or at the least, anxiety and confusion in being apart from their families. Perhaps Phoenix Indian School was not the worst of the boarding schools, but the stigma is still there. Would you ignore city policy to change that street name? I think not.

As a homeowner impacted by this potential change, I have several concerns that I believe may be shared by the other homeowners, though I don't profess to speak for them:

- **Failure to communicate with affected homeowners.**

You and our district representative, Sal DiCiccio, should have been in contact with the homeowners about this potential change you are considering, yet we only found out about it accidentally, when one of the homeowners noticed your plans in the newspaper. There has been no direct communication from the city to the homeowners that would be impacted.

- **Misdirected use of taxpayer dollars and council time.**

You and the city council have more important issues on which to spend taxpayer dollars and city council time and energy. Rather than renaming streets, your time would be better spent *fixing* Phoenix streets. Since your time in office, many Phoenix streets are in the worst condition I've ever seen. If it is a budget issue, why are we

spending more taxpayer dollars to rename and replace street signs? If funding is so available, perhaps you should be replacing the numerous large green lighted signs where the painted street names are dripping so much that many are hardly readable. It is hard to believe that the costs involved in making the Squaw Peak Drive changes would be only \$2000 if you consider not only materials, but the labor costs to make the changes and administrative costs to document and communicate the potential change.

- **Ignored promises for Squaw Peak Drive.**

Homeowners were promised in the late 1960's that a different entry road would be established for traffic going to the park. On a daily basis this residential area is impacted by huge traffic volume, particularly during the periods when the weather is under 100°. Holidays are particularly bad. Most of those travelling to the park are speeding through this residential area. In 1998, we were told park visitations for what was then Squaw Peak Park was over 1.1 million visitors annually. I'm sure this has grown exponentially since then. With every mountain rescue, an average of about seven Fire Department vehicles travel up and back down the road to the park. These trips are becoming more frequent, as has been mentioned in many recent news reports regarding mountain rescues.

- As the park continues to become more and more popular, with the growing Phoenix population, will the city make good on its long delayed promise to create a new entry route?
- What happened to the millions of dollars designated for a new park entrance in the 1984 Bond Issue?
- Which is more important, the desire to change what some consider an offensive term, or the public safety issue brought about by the excessive traffic through this residential neighborhood? I know of two families who moved to protect their young children due to the high traffic volume and speeding. To us, the need for a different approach road to the park seems more impactful than the need to change the street name.

- **Compassion and confusion.**

I feel compassion for Lori Piestewa and the ultimate sacrifice she gave for her country. She has been honored with a mountain named for her, as well as a freeway named for her. Naming this street for her would only cause confusion between the street name and the adjacent freeway name. In addition to the frustration and costs involved for homeowners to change the street name on numerous documents, business records and contacts, it would also create ongoing problems for homeowners every time we must give out the street name, since the spelling can be confusing. In fact, in one of the recent news articles regarding the potential change in the street name, the article contained two different spellings: Piestewa and Payestewa. If you force a name change against homeowner's wishes, and against city policy, what other city policies will you ignore? If we are forced to accept a name change, as news reports seem to indicate is your plan, homeowners should be given the opportunity to select a new name.

I would appreciate your consideration of these concerns before you determine next steps and as a taxpayer would expect your response to these concerns including what can be done about moving the approach road to our busy park. It seems reasonable to expect that you and our councilman should be communicating directly with the homeowners on these matters.

Sincerely,



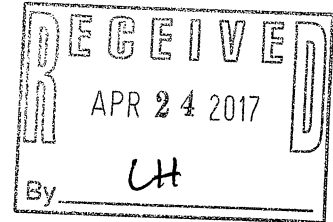
Linda Grass

cc: Sal DiCiccio, District 6
Vice Mayor Laura Pastor, District 4
Thelda Williams, District 1
Jim Waring, District 2
Debra Stark, District 3
Daniel Valenzuela, District 5
Michael Nowakowski, District 7
Kate Gallego, District 8

Linda Grass
2315 E. Squaw Peak Drive • Phoenix, AZ 85016

April 21, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
Phoenix City Hall, 11th Floor
200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003



RE: POTENTIAL RENAMING OF SQUAW PEAK DRIVE

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Sincerely,



Linda Grass

cc: Sal DiCiccio, District 6
Vice Mayor Laura Pastor, District 4
Thelda Williams, District 1
Jim Waring, District 2
Debra Stark, District 3
Daniel Valenzuela, District 5
Michael Nowakowski, District 7
Kate Gallego, District 8

Linda Grass
2315 E. Squaw Peak Drive • Phoenix, AZ 85016

April 25, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
Phoenix City Hall, 11th Floor
200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

RE: POTENTIAL RENAMING OF SQUAW PEAK DRIVE

In my April 21, 2017 letter to you and the members of the city council, I shared concerns regarding the potential renaming of Squaw Peak Drive. As noted in that letter, as a long-time homeowner on Squaw Peak Drive, I am opposed to what appears to be your planned renaming of the street against the wishes of the majority of the homeowners and against city policies.

In addition to the issues and concerns I listed in my prior letter, I would like to focus more specifically on the apparent reason behind your intention to rename the street. I must presume that the intentions noted in recent news articles do in fact represent your *planned intention* since Squaw Peak Drive homeowners have not heard from you directly. It appears that you are reacting to comments from some of the Native American community wherein they indicate that the word "squaw" is offensive and refers to a part of female anatomy. I would hope you will conduct further research before reacting to the request for a name change.

The meaning of the word "squaw" and the question of whether or not the word is offensive was recently dealt with on the Indian Country Media Network's Indian Country Today March 23, 2017 article titled "The Word Squaw: Offensive or Not?", with a sub-heading "The jury is still out as far as where squaw originated from". Indian Country Media Network is published by Native Americans to serve all of the Indian Nations. If you and the council members take time to read this, you will find that even this Native American publication does not firmly accept that the term "squaw" is intended to be offensive. They site Dr. Marge Bruchac, who is an Abenaki (one of the Algonquian-speaking peoples; a Native American Tribe and First Nation) historical consultant. As you will note in the attached article, she indicates that "Squaw means the totality of being female and the Algonquin version of the word "esqua," "squa" "skwa" does not translate to a woman's female anatomy." In fairness, the article does also point out that some believe the word can be offensive, but much of this article clearly lays out the other viewpoint. So even in this article published by the Native American community, they clearly state that "the jury is still out when it comes to the meaning of the word squaw".

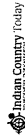
Given the above, it seems you and the city council members are reacting without sufficient need by planning to make a change that would have negative impact on the homeowners in this residential area. We have voiced our desire to retain the historical name of Squaw Peak Drive by providing you with a petition signed by 75% of the homeowners that would be affected by such a change. If you and the council members push through a name change for this street, you will be ignoring city policy as has been stated in news articles on this subject, since such a change requires the approval by a majority of the property owners in this area. Keep in mind that voters (not just Squaw Peak Drive homeowners) have long memories, and in today's political environment, voters are tired of politicians ignoring laws, regulations and policies and will make it known with their votes.

Please show some respect for the homeowners who are paying property taxes to help support maintenance of Squaw Peak Drive and must contend with the enormous traffic volume and safety issues associated with it in order to allow millions of visitors to get to Piestewa Peak Park.

Sincerely,


Linda Grass

cc: Sal DiCiccio, District 6
Vice Mayor Laura Pastor, District 4
Thelda Williams, District 1
Jim Waring, District 2
Debra Stark, District 3
Daniel Valenzuela, District 5
Michael Nowakowski, District 7
Kate Gallego, District 8



EVENTS

The Word Squaw: Offensive or Not?

The jury is still out as far as where squaw originated from

Vincent Schilling • March 23, 2017

The word squaw certainly has had its share of history. In researching its meaning, squaw is either offensive or historically accurate in portraying a female Indian woman. According to which historian you speak to on any given day or which link you click in a Google search, there are several theories regarding the word's origin. Most notably negative and perhaps the most feared definition of the word is that squaw translates to vagina.

According to Dr. Marge Bruchac, an Abenaki historical consultant, Squaw means the totality of being female and the Algonquin version of the word "esqua," "squa" "skwa" does not translate to a woman's female anatomy.

Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary defines the term as "often offensive: an American Indian woman" and "usually disparaging: woman, wife."

The Urban Dictionary paints a different picture. It says the word squaw "DOES NOT mean vagina, or any other body part for that matter. The word comes from the Massachusetts (no S) Algonquian tribe and means: female, young woman. The word squaw is not related to the Mohawk word 'ojiskwa': which does mean vagina. There is absolutely no derogatory meaning in the word 'squaw.' 'Squaw' has been a familiar word in American literature and language since the 16th century and has been generally understood to mean an Indian woman, or wife."

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In her article "Reclaiming the word 'Squaw' in the Name of the Ancestors," Dr. Bruchac wrote the following excerpt about the meaning of squaw.

"The word has been interpreted by modern activists as a slanderous assault against Native American women. But traditional Algonkian speakers, in both Indian and English, still say words like 'nidobaskwi'—a female friend, 'manigebeskwi'—woman of the woods, or 'Squaw Sachem'—female chief. When Abenaki people sing the Birth Song, they address 'nunksquassie'—little woman baby."

"I understand the concern of Indian women who feel insulted by this word, but I respectfully suggest that we reclaim our language rather than let it be taken over," wrote Bruchac.

There is no mistaking the strength in passion against the word. For several years after the article, Bruchac received death threats for her stance.

The first recorded version of squaw was found in a book called *Mourt's Relation: A Journey of the Pilgrims at Plymouth* written in 1622. The term was not used in a derogatory fashion but spoke of the "squa sachin or Massachusetts Queen" in the September 20, 1621 journal entry.

Though the earliest historical references support a non-offensive slant on the meaning of squaw and support Bruchac's claims, there are also several literary and historical instances of squaw being used in a derogatory or sexually connotative way.

According to some proponents on the inflammatory side of the words meaning, squaw could just as easily have come from the Mohawk word *ojiskwa'* which translates *politely* to vagina.

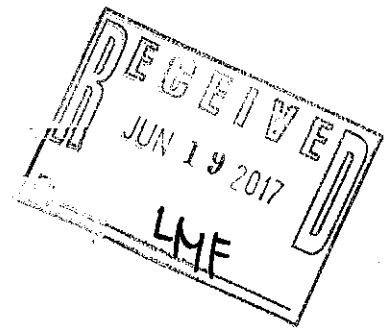
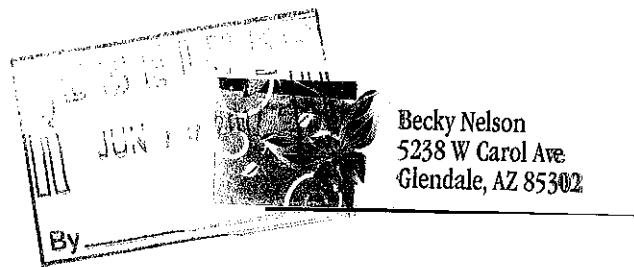
In the 1892 book *An Algonquin Maiden* by Canadian writer Pauline Johnson, whose father was a Mohawk Chief, the word squaw indicates a sexual meaning.

"Poor little Wanda! not only is she non-descript and ill-starred, but as usual the authors take away her love, her life, and last and most terrible of all, reputation; for they permit a crowd of men-friends of the hero to call her a 'squaw' and neither hero nor authors deny that she is a squaw. It is almost too sad when so much prejudice exists against the Indians, that any one should write up an Indian heroine with such glaring accusations against her virtue..."

In a 1973 book, *Literature of the American Indian*, authors Sanders and Peek straightforwardly asserted the term squaw "exists only in the mind of the non-Native American and is probably a French corruption of the Iroquois word *otsiskwa*, meaning female sexual parts..."

01/22/2017

June 16, 2017



I read on the internet about the mayor's office wanting to change the name of a certain street in Glendale, due to the name and its connection with the Civil War on the Confederacy side. History is one very big part of my life and that includes every aspect of history. Since I am writing this to obviously "history" ignorant, I will try to make this simple.

As it seems to me, two factors are influencing this:

1. A group of Yankees are trying to sway decisions. Are they attempting to minimize the part that segment played in the Civil War? They were not avenging anything, let alone the institution of slavery. They had their own agenda. The North was just as guilty of what we would consider war crimes as the South was, each in their area.
2. ISIS is going into areas in the Middle East and ripping apart the history of those areas making them into what they want those areas to be, ignoring the history of what is already there. Seems to me, that is what this country is now doing and Glendale, AZ. is falling right in line.

From my intense love of History, I have found that History is a very unforgiving subject. One must take the bad with the good. And that includes all of History.

While we are at it, let's discuss changing the names of streets such as Washington, Jefferson, and Van Buren, all who bought into slavery. Let's not stop there.

Mount Rushmore prominently displays Washington and Jefferson, 2 big reminders of slavery. In fact Jefferson had an ongoing affair and several children with a slave by the name of Sally Heming. Or, did you not know that. If we as a country are not going to deal honestly with every aspect of our history, how do we handle any of it?

There is a saying, "Those who do not learn from History are doomed to repeat it."

There is also the saying, "All it takes for evil to flourish is for good men to say nothing."

Becky L. Nelson

5238 W. Carol Ave.

Glendale, AZ. 85302-3449

June 16, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
Phoenix City Council
Phoenix City Hall, 11th floor
200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Alice Jones
2416 East Squaw Peak Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85016



SCANNED



Mayor Stanton,

The owners of property on **Squaw Peak Drive** adamantly protest the renaming of our street for the following reasons:

1. According to the most recent U.S., Census, the Native American population in Phoenix is two percent of the total Phoenix population. A few people, other than Native Americans, may support the Native American cause; however, not all Native Americans support renaming **Squaw Peak Drive**. One Native American man came to our street to say "Do not rename the street." Two percent does not represent the city of Phoenix.
2. In addition to the above statement, the residents on **Squaw Peak Drive** recently received a copy of an email that was evidently sent to you. The copy was left at the front door of residents' homes by a man other than a **Squaw Peak Drive** property owner. The message is quite derogatory in how you, as mayor, backed down on a promise you made to the residents of the South Mountain community and the desecration of a Native American religious shrine. Someone put forth much effort to place the message in our hands. The copy was certainly left in support of our renaming cause.
3. Residents on the street do not need the financial burden of your obsession to rename **Squaw Peak Drive**.
4. There are many other hiking trails and parks in the Phoenix area for Native Americans to enjoy without seeing the two signs that show the words **Squaw Peak Drive**.
5. The property owners on **Squaw Peak Drive** pay the property taxes for the privilege of calling our street **Squaw Peak Drive**.
6. The street name, **Squaw Peak Drive**, is a part of Phoenix history. The peak was renamed by "pulling a 'Napolitano' on the city, and state" without the advice and approval of state government. We are left with Papoose Peak. Now that the name Squaw Peak—as many people still call it—has been changed, that is enough for Piستewa who was half Native American.
7. The City Council will never have seventy-five percent of the **Squaw Peak Drive** property owners in support of the renaming of the street. To rename the street would be in violation of city policy as stated in the Phoenix Street Naming process. Seventy-five percent of Property owners signed the petition to protest the renaming. Other owners did not respond with an objection to the petition; they just did not respond.
8. Changing the law in order to rename the street should not help your stand in this instance as **Squaw Peak Drive** should be "grandfathered in." Its name has already been changed under the existing law of the day. I can only imagine the uproar, and voting backlash, from the citizens of Phoenix if an attempt were made to circumvent Phoenix Street Naming policy and the rights of its citizens.

9. According to the Random House Dictionary of the English Language, second edition unabridged, the disparaging and offensive form of the word squaw is slang—as gringo, Georgia cracker, or hillbilly. In sources I have checked, a note is made of the word being offensive to some Native Americans. In no source was Americans, as the general population, mentioned. I refer again to the only two percent Native American population in Phoenix.

10. The United States Air Force has a list of banned words/phrases. There is no reference to the word squaw on that list.

11. As librarian, I have researched the subject. The word squaw, as it is mistakenly used, is no worse and no more offensive than words that can be heard on radio and television. However, I suggest you do the research involved to fully understand the Mohawk word **ojiskwa** (a body part) and the word **squaw** (not a body part). **The reference is from Ives Goddard, a specialist in linguistics and curator at the Smithsonian Institution, writing in News From Indian Country, mid-April 1997. “The resemblance that might be perceived between ‘squaw’ and the last syllable of the Mohawk word ‘ojiskwa’ is coincidental. The word squaw is not an obscene insult.”** A guest on an Oprah show in 1992 made the assumption of the word meaning—and unfortunately, it spread as the truth. The mistaken usage of the word, squaw, is based on hearsay, not fact. There is much more to this story that you will find in your search for the truth.

12. The general public does not want **Squaw Peak Drive** to be renamed. When talking with strangers as well as friends, their comments are from, “Not again” to “You’ve got to be kidding.” Because this has been our cause and fight in the public eye for six months, it is clear to us that, given the opportunity to vote on the matter, the decision would be overwhelmingly in favor of retaining the street name **Squaw Peak Drive**. The general public is also aware of how you and any other City Council members who support you would be defying our petition and city policy in the Phoenix Street Naming process.

13. Lastly, the property owners purchased the property knowing it was **Squaw Peak Drive**. We love the name, love living on this street and love having the street name on every written document we possess. It is our street!

Thank you for retaining our street name **Squaw Peak Drive**.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice Jones".

Alice Jones



Joseph S. Zavislak

5308 E. Wonderview Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85018-1941

Greetings Mr. Mayor,

We have read you are proposing changing the names of several streets. We hope you consider our neighborhood to do this process.

Our three streets and the proposed new names are: Valle Vista to Stanton Vista

Wonderview Rd to Stanton Road

Rock Ridge to Stanton Ridge.

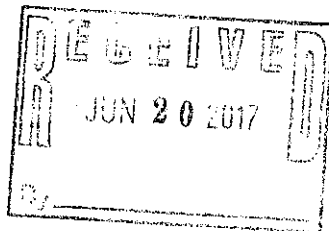
We are requesting you consider doing this because streets department does not respond to our requests. We think with your name on the street signs we will have some "in."

Your consideration is our hope.

Respectfully,

Joe

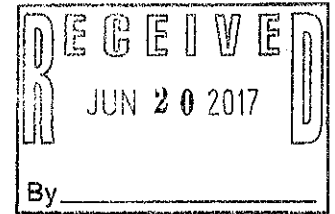
602 840 4836



June 16, 2017

Mayor Greg Stanton
Phoenix City Council
Phoenix City Hall, 11th floor
200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Alice Jones
2416 East Squaw Peak Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85016



Mayor Stanton,

The owners of property on **Squaw Peak Drive** adamantly protest the renaming of our street for the following reasons:

1. According to the most recent U.S., Census, the Native American population in Phoenix is two percent of the total Phoenix population. A few people, other than Native Americans, may support the Native American cause; however, not all Native Americans support renaming **Squaw Peak Drive**. One Native American man came to our street to say "Do not rename the street." Two percent does not represent the city of Phoenix.
2. In addition to the above statement, the residents on **Squaw Peak Drive** recently received a copy of an email that was evidently sent to you. The copy was left at the front door of residents' homes by a man other than a **Squaw Peak Drive** property owner. The message is quite derogatory in how you, as mayor, backed down on a promise you made to the residents of the South Mountain community and the desecration of a Native American religious shrine. Someone put forth much effort to place the message in our hands. The copy was certainly left in support of our renaming cause.
3. Residents on the street do not need the financial burden of your obsession to rename **Squaw Peak Drive**.
4. There are many other hiking trails and parks in the Phoenix area for Native Americans to enjoy without seeing the two signs that show the words **Squaw Peak Drive**.
5. The property owners on **Squaw Peak Drive** pay the property taxes for the privilege of calling our street **Squaw Peak Drive**.
6. The street name, **Squaw Peak Drive**, is a part of Phoenix history. The peak was renamed by "pulling a 'Napolitano' on the city, and state" without the advice and approval of state government. We are left with Papoose Peak. Now that the name Squaw Peak—as many people still call it—has been changed, that is enough for Piestewa who was half Native American.
7. The City Council will never have seventy-five percent of the **Squaw Peak Drive** property owners in support of the renaming of the street. To rename the street would be in violation of city policy as stated in the Phoenix Street Naming process. Seventy-five percent of Property owners signed the petition to protest the renaming. Other owners did not respond with an objection to the petition; they just did not respond.
8. Changing the law in order to rename the street should not help your stand in this instance as **Squaw Peak Drive** should be "grandfathered in." Its name has already been changed under the existing law of the day. I can only imagine the uproar, and voting backlash, from the citizens of Phoenix if an attempt were made to circumvent Phoenix Street Naming policy and the rights of its citizens.

9. According to the Random House Dictionary of the English Language, second edition unabridged, the disparaging and offensive form of the word squaw is slang—as gringo, Georgia cracker, or hillbilly. In sources I have checked, a note is made of the word being offensive to some Native Americans. In no source was Americans, as the general population, mentioned. I refer again to the only two percent Native American population in Phoenix.

10. The United States Air Force has a list of banned words/phrases. There is no reference to the word squaw on that list.

11. As librarian, I have researched the subject. The word squaw, as it is mistakenly used, is no worse and no more offensive than words that can be heard on radio and television. However, I suggest you do the research involved to fully understand the Mohawk word **ojiskwa** (a body part) and the word **squaw** (not a body part). **The reference is from Ives Goddard, a specialist in linguistics and curator at the Smithsonian Institution, writing in News From Indian Country, mid-April 1997. “The resemblance that might be perceived between ‘squaw’ and the last syllable of the Mohawk word ‘ojiskwa’ is coincidental. The word squaw is not an obscene insult.”** A guest on an Oprah show in 1992 made the assumption of the word meaning—and unfortunately, it spread as the truth. The mistaken usage of the word, squaw, is based on hearsay, not fact. There is much more to this story that you will find in your search for the truth.

12. The general public does not want **Squaw Peak Drive** to be renamed. When talking with strangers as well as friends, their comments are from, “Not again” to “You’ve got to be kidding.” Because this has been our cause and fight in the public eye for six months, it is clear to us that, given the opportunity to vote on the matter, the decision would be overwhelmingly in favor of retaining the street name **Squaw Peak Drive**. The general public is also aware of how you and any other City Council members who support you would be defying our petition and city policy in the Phoenix Street Naming process.

13. Lastly, the property owners purchased the property knowing it was **Squaw Peak Drive**. We love the name, love living on this street and love having the street name on every written document we possess. It is our street!

Thank you for retaining our street name **Squaw Peak Drive**.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice Jones".

Alice Jones

June 29, 2017

Councilman Jim Waring
Phoenix City Hall, 11th Floor
200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

RE: CITY COUNCIL POLICY MEETING 6/27/2017

Councilman Waring, this note is sent directly to you to let you know how much I appreciate your sane approach to the review of the proposed policy change for renaming city streets. As a homeowner on Squaw Peak Drive, I listened with interest to the on-line video of the entire meeting, as I was unable to attend the actual meeting. I was extremely disappointed in the outcome of the meeting, but laud your efforts to try to get the council to recognize that by implementing this policy change they were totally eliminating any necessity to listen to the legitimate issues posed by residents (aka voters) who would be affected by their actions. You seemed to be the only council member who truly had read the complete policy packet and recognized the impact to homeowners and businesses.

I also appreciate you calling out the mayor on his failure to adequately communicate with the homeowners who would be affected by his obviously politically motivated desire to change the two street names in question. As you know, there was NO communication from the mayor or council to the homeowners, though he seemed to have plenty of time to listen and discuss the concerns of the special interest groups pushing for these changes. It was shocking to hear that even the council members were caught off guard with little notification of the meeting and its purpose. When he finally did communicate with the homeowners to let us know the policy meeting was about to happen, we had only three days to try to arrange schedules to be in attendance. What a travesty. How interesting that it seems the whole Native American and black community seemed to have received adequate notification to be in attendance.

When I learned of the meeting, I tried phoning my councilman, Sal Diccio. Though unable to speak directly to him, in a lengthy discussion with his chief of staff, I was heartened to learn that Diccio was fully supporting the homeowners. Imagine my shock and disappointment when his first words on the subject at the meeting were to say he feels the word "squaw" is offensive and has always thought it was. It was soon obvious that, although he would eventually vote no on the proposed policy, he did no favors to the cause of the homeowners wishing to retain the current street name, when even Native American publications indicate there is no agreement as to whether or not the term "squaw" is offensive. Will the council also be renaming the other Phoenix street, Squawbush Place?

It was blatantly obvious however, that none of the city council members or city staff had spent any time looking into the signage issue on our street. You tried to press concerns about the signage at Lincoln Drive, but in the end, all agreed that it was fine to go ahead with the immediate removal of the green backlit Squaw Peak Drive signs to be replaced with directional signs for Piestewa Park. Unfortunately, the city staff members were wrong when they said this would be fine since the other small street sign would remain at Lincoln and Squaw Peak Drive. Only problem is, **there is no other street sign at the corner**, only the green backlit street signs, so our street will have no signage for service and delivery companies looking for our street. **So the rush to change the backlit signs before resolving the street name issue should be stopped.**

Though I question how many council members actually read the two detailed letters I sent to the mayor and council, and although I do not reside in your district, I hope you will see that my concerns noted herein are effectively communicated to the council. In addition to the concern about the rush to remove the backlit signs, I hope you will encourage the council to consider that, if they wish to arbitrarily choose names for streets, such as to honor Cesar Chavez, they need to consider naming new streets in our ever-growing city, rather than creating havoc for businesses and homeowners by changing existing street names on a whim. [Note that there is already a street in Phoenix named for Cesar Chavez, though it is spelled wrong: Ceasar Chavez Park Rd.]

I hope council members are aware that a large segment of the Phoenix population think this move to rename Squaw Peak Drive and change the renaming policy is wrong. As an example, I noticed that 200+ residents (aka voters) commented on a Facebook posting by Channel 10 news anchor, John Hook, questioning the reasonableness of the city council's misdirected time and effort to change city street names. I believe there were only 2 comments in the 200+ that supported the change. Keep in mind many of these folks will be voting in August.

Regards,


Linda Grass

cc: Sal DiCiccio, District 6
Thelda Williams, District 1
~~Debra Stark, District 3~~
Vice Mayor Laura Pastor, District 4

Daniel Valenzuela, District 5
Michael Nowakowski, District 7
Kate Gallego, District 8
Mayor Greg Stanton

June 16, 2017

Councilwoman Debra Stark, District 3
Phoenix City Council
Phoenix City Hall, 11th floor
200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Councilwoman Stark,

This is a copy of my letter Mayor Stanton regarding the renaming of Squaw Peak Drive. I, and other property owners on the street, would appreciate your help in retaining the street name Squaw Peak Drive. Thank You.

Mayor Stanton,

The owners of property on **Squaw Peak Drive** adamantly protest the renaming of our street for the following reasons:

1. According to the most recent U.S., Census, the Native American population in Phoenix is two percent of the total Phoenix population. A few people, other than Native Americans, may support the Native American cause; however, not all Native Americans support renaming **Squaw Peak Drive**. One Native American man came to our street to say "Do not rename the street." Two percent does not represent the city of Phoenix.
2. In addition to the above statement, the residents on **Squaw Peak Drive** recently received a copy of an email that was evidently sent to you. The copy was left at the front door of residents' homes by a man other than a **Squaw Peak Drive** property owner. The message is quite derogatory in how you, as mayor, backed down on a promise you made to the residents of the South Mountain community and the desecration of a Native American religious shrine. Someone put forth much effort to place the message in our hands. The copy was certainly left in support of our renaming cause.
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7. The City Council will never have seventy-five percent of the **Squaw Peak Drive** property owners in support of the renaming of the street. To rename the street would be in violation of city policy as stated in the Phoenix Street Naming process. Seventy-five percent of Property owners signed the petition to protest the renaming. Other owners did not respond with an objection to the petition; they just did not respond.

8. Changing the law in order to rename the street should not help your efforts in this instance as the name **Squaw Peak Drive** should be "grandfathered in." Its name has already been changed under the existing law of the day. I can only imagine the uproar, and voting backlash, from the citizens of Phoenix if an attempt were made to circumvent Phoenix Street Naming policy and the rights of its citizens.

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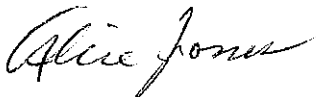
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Respectfully,



Alice Jones
2416 East Squaw Peak Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(602) 686-2282

June 16, 2017

Councilman Daniel Valenzuela, District 5
Phoenix City Council
Phoenix City Hall, 11th floor
200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Councilman Valenzuela,

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