

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 800 Portland, OR 97204 503.823.5185
Fax 503.823.7576 TTY 503.823.6868 www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation

Dan Saltzman Commissioner Leah Treat Director

APPLICATION TO RENAME A CITY STREET(S)

Date: 2/1/18

We, the undersigned, do hereby make application to rename

SW STARK STREET to be SW HARVEY MILK STREET
proposed street(s) proposed name

Attached are: 1) biography of person for whom street name change is proposed
2) map of street proposed for renaming

Applicant's Signature [Signature]

Organization Harvey Milk Street Project

Applicant's Address 212 SW Stark St.

Phone 503-464-1122

Application Accepted / Denied

Reason for denial _____ By _____
(Staff)

FINAL APPLICATION PACKET

1. Due by 8/1/2018 (180 days from initial application date)

2. Submitted on _____
(Date)

3. Packet item submitted: Yes No
- a) Petition forms with _____ signatures of residents of the City at large (2500 min. required), or _____% of abutting property owners. (75% min. required)
 - b) Honoree's biography and other information
 - c) Letters indicating support or opposition from majority of the abutting neighborhood and business associations.
 - d) Letter of support from honoree's surviving _____
 - e) Fee deposit \$ _____
 - \$500 for each street up to 10 city blocks long (1/2 mile or less)
 - \$1,000 for each street longer than 10 city blocks (1/2 mile or more)



The Portland Bureau of Transportation fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA Title II, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For accommodations, complaints and information, call (503) 823-5185, City TTY (503) 823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.

Application Accepted / Denied

(Date)

Reason for denial _____

By _____
(Staff)

I/we understand that any false or misleading information will render this application invalid. I/we certify that all information submitted is complete and correct to the best of my/our knowledge.

(Applicant's signature)

(Date)



www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation

The City of Portland complies with all non-discrimination, Civil Rights laws including Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II. To request translation, interpretation, accommodation, modifications, or additional information, please contact XXXXXX at XXXXXX, or use City TTY 503-823-6868, or Oregon Relay Service: 711.

Legend

- Parcels abutting/addressed on SW Stark St
- SW Stark St



PBOT
PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION



January 18, 2018

To: Portland Bureau of Transportation

My uncle Harvey Milk was one the first openly LGBT elected officials in the US and the first to call for LGBT people to take the bold step of being out and visible. This year marks 40 years that Harvey served as an elected, his term cut short by an assassin's bullets. I have had the honor to take his story and his universal message of equality around the world over the past three decades.

My uncle gave me, at a young age, my first lessons in self-acceptance and celebrating one's differences. When I was twelve, he gave me a copy of the Native American anthology *Seven Arrows*, inscribed with the words "You, and all your differences, are the medicine that the world needs, even when the world does not recognize that." This began our deeper, ongoing dialogue about authenticity and accepting oneself, a dialogue that came to a violent end when I was seventeen and in my first semester at university, when Harvey was assassinated. I came out that night Harvey was killed. Coming out was still extremely rare back then, yet I would be joined by tens of thousands of other LGBT people across the world who would read about and hear the prophetic message my uncle included in his recorded political will, "If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door."

I now travel the globe relating Harvey's not only relevant but desperately needed message of hope and courage. I've heard heartfelt stories of newly discovered pride and renewed faith in their own futures from young folks in countries around the world (yes, including from the youth of Portland!) – all inspired by a man who made the ultimate sacrifice in 1978 to move us all forward. I have seen firsthand the impact that Harvey Milk Day in California has on young people: the hope Harvey's story offers is palpable. Harvey dreamed of not only equality but acceptance – we even have a US navy ship being built bearing the name USNS Harvey Milk, which will carry this message to many ports where it is still illegal to be LGBT.

I have had the privilege to share the stage with some of the most amazing world leaders including President Barack Obama, Nobel Prize Winner Desmond Tutu, and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; however, it is the hundreds of youth that I have met across the globe, LGBT and non-LGBT alike, that have been most inspiring. They hear the story of my uncle and know that he believed in them and in their authenticity.

So it is my hope, both as a leader of the Harvey Milk Foundation and as Milk family spokesperson, that the great City of Portland will join leading communities across the world in celebrating that legacy; and through the city blocks of Harvey Milk Street, send a daily reminder that is a beacon of hope for all of Portland. Thank you.

L. Stuart Milk
Executive Chair, Harvey Milk Foundation
Nephew of Harvey Milk.

The Miami Foundation, as a community foundation, acts as fiscal agent for the Harvey Milk Foundation. The Miami Foundation is registered with the State of Florida under the solicitation of contributions act, 1991. A copy of the original registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free within the state. 1-800-4357352. Our Florida registration number SC 04939.



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January 30, 2018

Subject: Harvey Milk Street Renaming

The Downtown Neighborhood Association is proud to support the effort to rename SW Stark in honor of gay rights activist Harvey Milk. Downtown Portland was the historic center of Portland's LGBTQ community and, in light of its history, we agree that SW Stark Street is an appropriate street to rename for a prominent LGBTQ activist.

We all have a responsibility to create an inclusive community and we understand the symbolic significance that street names have in demonstrating our community values. Renaming a street sends a clear message that the LGBTQ members in our community are important, and that we as a City value their contributions to making Portland an open, welcoming, and wonderful place for everyone.

We look forward to joining the Harvey Milk Coalition at the official renaming event!

Best regards,

Felicia Williams
President, Downtown Neighborhood Association





QUOTES FROM HARVEY:

“All men are created equal. No matter how hard they try, they can never erase those words. That is what America is about.”

“If you are not personally free to be yourself in that most important of all human activities... the expression of love... then life itself loses its meaning.”

“All young people, regardless of sexual orientation or identity, deserve a safe and supportive environment in which to achieve their full potential.”

“I finally reached the point where I knew I had to become involved or shut up.”

“Rights are won only by those who make their voices heard. “

“I ask for the movement to continue, for the movement to grow. It's not about personal gain, not about ego, not about power — it's about giving those young people out there hope. You gotta give them hope.”

Harvey Milk

Harvey Milk was a prominent leader in the early stages of the LGBTQ civil rights movement and one of the first openly LGBTQ Americans ever elected to public office. Born in New York in 1930, Milk moved to San Francisco in 1972 and set about unifying and organizing the LGBTQ community. His unapologetic insistence on equality galvanized the budding LGBTQ rights movement and he supported activists around the country. As he gained national attention for his cause, he was known in San Francisco as the Mayor of Castro Street. In 1977 he was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, but was assassinated the following year by Dan White, an anti-gay activist who also assassinated the city's pro-equality mayor. To this day, Milk's legacy and message of hope continue to inspire young LGBTQ people around the world.

WWW.HARVEYMILKPDX.ORG / INFO@HARVEYMILKPDX.ORG

Recognition of Harvey Milk



San Diego became the first city in the country to name a street after Harvey Milk in 2012...

...and Salt Lake City followed suit in 2016.



In 2014, Harvey became the first LGBT activist to have a US postage stamp dedicated to him.

In 2009, Harvey Milk was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the first LGBT right activist to be honored with the nation's most prestigious civilian award. President Obama presented the medal to Harvey's nephew, Stuart Milk, in a ceremony at the White House.



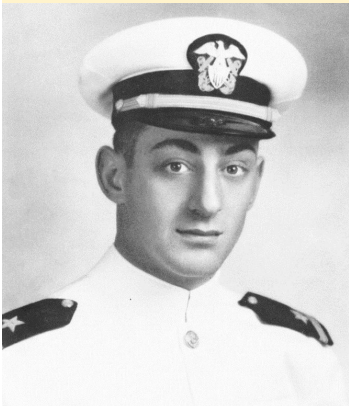
**HARVEY MILK
CIVIL RIGHTS ACADEMY**

San Francisco and New York City have both named a high school after Harvey.

In 2008, the movie Milk, a biopic of Harvey's life, was released to wide acclaim. Directed by Portland's own Gus Van Sant, the movie received eight Academy Award nominations.



A Navy veteran, Harvey will be the first openly LGBT person to ever have a US Navy ship named after him.



Harvey Milk – A Brief Biography

Harvey Milk was a national leader in the early stages of the LGBTQ civil rights movement. When he won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977, he became one of the first openly LGBTQ Americans elected to public office. The following year, he was assassinated by an anti-gay activist and former colleague, Dan White, who also murdered San Francisco's pro-equality mayor. The scope of Milk's activism extended well beyond San Francisco - Milk helped in the effort to defeat the anti-LGBTQ Measure 51 in Eugene in 1978, a critical campaign in Oregon's fledgling LGBTQ civil rights movement. To this day, Milk's legacy and message of hope continues to inspire young LGBTQ people around the world.

Life & Political Career

Harvey Milk was born in 1922 in Woodmere, New York, to a Jewish family of Lithuanian descent. Both of his parents were Navy veterans, and after college he, too, joined the Navy as an officer, where he worked as a diving instructor in San Diego. The anti-gay culture of the 1950's expressed itself in the US Military as a series of witch hunts that saw thousands of LGBTQ servicemembers discharged. In this hostile climate, Milk left the Navy and moved back to New York, where he worked in a variety of professions such as teaching, Wall Street trading, and theater production.

In 1972, Milk moved to San Francisco and set up a camera store on Castro Street, which would soon become an important meeting and organizing center for San Francisco's growing LGBTQ community. A year later he ran for City Supervisor. Although unsuccessful, this was the first of Milk's several attempts to gain elected office, including one failed attempt at election to the California Assembly.

In 1977, Milk was finally successful in his third bid for a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. During his short time in office, he oversaw the passage of an LGBTQ civil rights bill and championed housing and childcare issues for low-income families.

In 1978, Harvey Milk and San Francisco Mayor George Moscone were assassinated by former City Supervisor Dan White. White had resigned from the Board of Supervisors earlier that year, but later asked the Mayor to reinstate him, which he refused. Breaking into City Hall to avoid metal detectors, White shot both the Mayor and Harvey Milk. He was later convicted of manslaughter and served only five years of his sentence. The night of the assassinations, tens of thousands marched through the streets of San Francisco in a candlelight vigil.

Commemorations of Harvey Milk

Harvey Milk's life & activism have been commemorated in various books & other media, including critically-lauded & award-winning films *The Times of Harvey Milk* (1984) and *Milk* (2008), the latter of which was directed by Portland filmmaker Gus Van Sant.

TIME Magazine listed Milk as one of the 100 people who most influenced the 20th Century in their June 1999 issue.

In 2009, President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Milk the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the first LGBTQ rights activist to ever achieve this honor. The United States Postal Service dedicated a stamp to Milk in 2014. Milk was a Naval officer, and in 2016 the US Navy declared that USNS Harvey Milk will begin construction in 2018 – the first US Navy ship to be named after an openly gay leader.

Milk's name is on multiple buildings around the world, including schools & LGBTQ community centers. In San Francisco, there is a federal building at the US Job Corps Center on Treasure Island named after Milk, as well as a public recreation center, a branch of the public library, and a public plaza. Two cities – San Diego and Salt Lake City – have a street named after Milk. Many California public schools also celebrate Harvey Milk Day on May 22 each year.

In 2009, the Harvey Milk Foundation was founded by Stuart Milk, Harvey's nephew, and Anne Kronenberg, Milk's campaign manager and aide.

Additional resources:

- Aretha, David. *No Compromise: The Story of Harvey Milk*. Morgan Reynolds Publishers, 2009.
- Black, Jason E., and Morris, Charles E., editors. *An Archive of Hope: Harvey Milk's Speeches and Writings*. University of California Press, 2013.
- Emery, Vince, editor. *The Harvey Milk Interviews: In His Own Words*. Vince Emery Productions, 2012.
- Shilts, Randy. *The Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*. Saint Martin's Press, 1982.
- *The Times of Harvey Milk*. Dir. Robert Epstein. New Yorker Films. 1984. Film.
- *Milk*. Dir. Gus Van Sant. Focus Features. 2008. Film.
- www.milkfoundation.org
- www.harveymilkpdx.org

Harvey Milk Street Project Committee

Governor Barbara Roberts, Oregon's Governor from 1991-1995

Governor Ted Kulongoski, Oregon's Governor from 2003-2011

Amy Herzfeld-Copple, Co-Executive Director of Basic Rights Oregon

Mikki Gillette, Major Gifts Officer at Basic Rights Oregon

Terry Bean, Real Estate broker and lifetime LGBTQ rights activist

Cory L. Murphy-Helmkamp, Social justice and civil rights activist

Lisa Schroeder, business owner on SW Stark St.

Suzanne Hale, business owner on SW Stark St.

Rick Jung, Executive Director of Portland Gay Men's Chorus

Thomas Lauderdale, LGBTQ rights activist and local musician

Craig Hartzman, LGBTQ rights activist

Dwayne Davis, LGBTQ rights activist

Cathy Travis, LGBTQ rights activist

Tyler TerMeer, Executive Director of Cascade AIDS Project

Peter Parisot, Deputy Executive Director of Cascade AIDS Project

Jean Pierre Nugloze, business owner on SW Stark St.

Matt Steele, LGBTQ rights Activist

Our Vision

We envision a world where no LGBTQ child questions their worth, where every person of every gender & orientation & identity feels seen & heard & respected. We seek a society that demonstrates its commitment to this world by ensuring inclusion & equity in law & opportunity.

As is well evident, this world does not yet exist. Although we have seen remarkable progress in the rights & recognition of the LGBTQ community in recent decades, LGBTQ people continue to face significant obstacles to housing, healthcare, safety, legal status, job security, & more.

We believe visible, public acknowledgement of the struggles and contributions of the LGBTQ community is a crucial part of this vision. Public art, memorials, & building/street names all send a lasting, powerful message to those who experience them.

So a group of us met. And we talked. And we met again, and again, and again. How do we open the door to commemorate & celebrate the LGBTQ community in Portland? We want this to be a starting point – so we chose a street in a neighborhood historically significant to the LGBTQ community. We sought an active figure in the LGBTQ equality movement, someone who, as per city law, is a household name & has been deceased for 5+ years. After much thought, we decided activist/politician/veteran Harvey Milk is a compelling choice, having nationwide recognition for his legacy & story.

From here, we hope to further enliven the SW Stark neighborhood, to use this opportunity as a starting point to commemorate LGBTQ heroes & icons. It's a definitive step toward the future we envision, and we hope you'll join us on this project.

A Community Effort

We're a grassroots coalition in Portland who have come together to propose renaming the 13 blocks of SW Stark Street in honor of national LGBTQ hero Harvey Milk. Our broad coalition includes community groups, local LGBTQ organizations, downtown business owners, and passionate individuals. Over 70% of the businesses on SW Stark St have endorsed this effort, and we expect the others to soon join them. Numerous local political and social figures have endorsed the cause as well.

Because Portland is a city that embraces equality & strives for social justice, it has renamed several of its streets after well-known leaders of civil rights movements – Martin Luther King, Jr, Blvd in 1990; Naito Parkway in 1996; Rosa Parks Way in 2007; and César E. Chávez Blvd in 2009. We believe LGBTQ activist Harvey Milk is a powerful, meaningful, inspiring next step.

Why SW Stark Street?

SW Stark Street was once a center of LGBTQ culture in Portland. Our community coalition, alongside a growing number of Portlanders, hope to recognize this by renaming the street after Harvey Milk. Renaming the 13 blocks of SW Stark Street to SW Harvey Milk Street would demonstrate Portland's pursuit of equity & inclusion for its citizens, a city that honors its LGBTQ community's struggle for equality.

Only a couple of decades ago, SW Stark hosted the majority of Portland's LGBTQ nightlife, parades, & businesses. Only a handful of these remain on SW Stark, but renaming this street after LGBTQ hero Harvey Milk will commemorate the cultural/historical significance of this street to the LGBTQ community for generations to come. As mentioned above, we are looking into additional ways to recognize other icons & symbols of our movement along this street.



“I am proud to add my enthusiastic support to this proposal to recognize Harvey Milk here in Portland. He was a role model of courage and honesty for our country.”

- Governor Barbara Roberts

“Given a history of bias and bigotry against the people who make up the GLBTQ community, we need to create cultural symbols that reinforce our roles as positive members of the broader society. Naming a street after Harvey Milk will... acknowledge our struggle and our humanity.”

- Kathleen Saadat, Portland activist & musician



“As a gay man and business owner on SW Stark Street, this project is remarkable to me. I was an LGBTQ activist in Togo before I was forced to leave and seek asylum here in the US, because my government passed a 5-year prison sentence for anyone who is gay. The Harvey Milk

Street Project makes me so proud that I picked Portland to start my business and new life!”

- Jean Pierre Nugloze, Owner of N’Kossi Boutique de l’Afrique on Southwest Stark Street

“Harvey Milk’s message is one of positivity and hope. It’s exciting to see somebody who has done so much good be recognized, and I would love to have a street named after him in Portland.”

- Gus Van Sant, Portland filmmaker and director of the movie *Milk*, a biopic of Harvey Milk’s life



ENDORSEMENTS

Community Organizations

- ACLU of Oregon
- Basic Rights Oregon
- Bridging Voices
- Cascade AIDS Project
- Dykes on Bikes PDX
- El Hispanic News
- First Unitarian Church of Portland
- Gay & Lesbian Archives of the PNW
- International Imperial Court Council
- Northwest Gender Alliance
- OHSU Partnership Project
- Oregon Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Our House
- Portland Gay Men’s Chorus
- Portland Lesbian Choir
- PSU’s Queer Resource Center
- PQ Monthly
- Pride Foundation
- Pride Northwest
- Prism Health
- Quest Center for Integrative Health
- Rose City Gay Freedom Band
- Veterans for Human Rights

Community Leaders

- Governor Barbara Roberts
- Governor Ted Kulongoski
- Darcelle XV & Roxy LeRoy
- Kathleen Saadat
- Gus Van Sant
- Tom Potter
- Stuart Milk
- Terry Bean
- Congressman Barney Frank
- Cory L. Murphy-Helmkamp
- Jean Pierre Nugloze
- Lisa Schroeder
- Suzanne Hale
- Jason Collins
- Thomas Lauderdale
- State Rep. Karin Power
- Cathy Travis
- Nancy Hales
- Dustin Lance Black
- Judy and Dennis Shepard
- Nicole Murray Ramirez
- Marty Davis
- Reverend Nathan Meckley, MCC
- Roey Thorpe
- Esera Tuaolo
- Billy Bean
- Homer Williams
- Mark Edlen

Portland’s Business Community

Businesses on SW Stark St:

- Al-Amir Restaurant
- American Panda
- Boxer Ramen
- Caribbean Kitchen
- Chez Dodo
- Club Rouge
- Crystal Hotel
- Cultured Caveman
- John Fluevog Shoes
- Kenny & Zukes
- Mother’s Bistro & Bar
- N’Kossi Boutique de l’Afrique
- Peterson’s Grocery Store
- Pulehu Pizza
- Quik Fish Poke Bar
- Ringlers Annex
- The Roxy
- Scandals
- Steven Allen
- Stumptown Coffee Roasters
- Sushi Food Cart
- Timbuk2
- Velvet Lounge Café
- West End Bikes
- Zeus Café

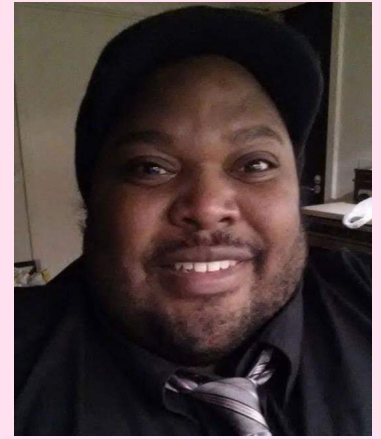
Other Portland Businesses:

- Powell’s City of Books
- McMenamins
- Gerding-Edlen
- FamilyCare Health
- Portland Institute for Contemporary Art
- Harsch Investment Properties
- Studio Blue
- Rose City Commercial Real Estate
- Hobo’s Restaurant
- Blue Hour
- 23 Hoyt
- Oregon Pacific Investments
- The Rainbow Room Lounge
- Stag PDX
- Saucebox
- Clark Lewis
- Triangle Productions



“Renaming SW Stark St. after gay activist and icon Harvey Milk will send a powerful message to LGBTQ youth that they are valued and respected,”

Mikki Gillette
Basic Rights Oregon & Committee Member



“Harvey Milk inspired an entire nation of LGBTQ citizens to demand recognition and electoral power in their communities. I am excited to acknowledge his contributions by naming a street in his honor,”

Cory Murphy-Helmkamp
Former Director of Operations for Pride Northwest, Committee Member



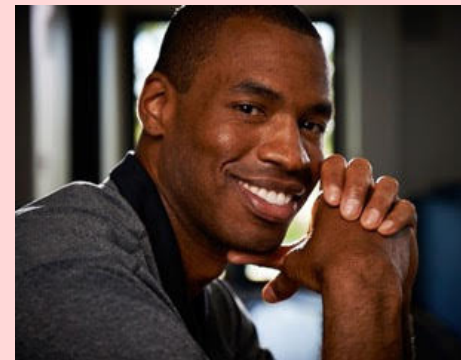
“So many lives have been lost because of violence & stigma against the LGBTQ community. The positive impact of publicly recognizing Harvey Milk’s work & sacrifice in downtown Portland would be immense – reinforcing the culture of acknowledgment & acceptance as well as inspiring strength & esteem in our LGBTQ youth. My son Matthew would be so proud to see this project come to fruition.”

Judy & Dennis Shepard,
Parents of Matthew Shepard



“I’m grateful for every LGBTQ hero who has come before me and made my life better because of their sacrifice. Honoring Harvey Milk’s legacy by renaming a street in the heart of the city after him speaks volumes to the great character of the city of Portland, Oregon,”

Jason Collins
First openly gay NBA player, LGBTQ rights activist



“Visibility is so important for marginalized communities – I’ve experienced this first hand as a closeted football player at Oregon State University & in the NFL. Commemorating LGBTQ activist Harvey Milk in downtown Portland sends a powerful message to our youth & our citizens: we see you & we honor your stories,”

Esera Tuaolo
Openly gay former NFL player, LGBTQ rights activist



“Honoring the LGBTQ equality movement is a decisive next step in Portland’s journey to celebrate all who live here. As a business owner on SW Stark, this effort is an exciting opportunity to demonstrate Portland’s values in our business community, and we’re so thrilled that it has received such widespread support,”

Lisa Schroeder
Chef/Owner of Mother's Bistro & Bar, Committee Member