

Minutes – Council – May 28, 2026

Minute No. 304

Report – Executive Policy Committee – May 19, 2026

Item No. 14 Park Renaming – Odeon Park to Kevin Walters Plaza

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the Welcoming Winnipeg Policy be waived, and the park located at the junction of Smith Street and Notre Dame Avenue, known as ‘Odeon Park’, be officially renamed to ‘Kevin Walters Plaza’.
2. That funding for the signage be approved from the Assiniboia Community Committee Land Dedication Reserve (Charleswood-Tuxedo-Westwood Ward allocation).
3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

The motion for the adoption of the Item was put.

His Worship Mayor Gillingham called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea:	His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Lukes, Mayes, Rollins, Santos, Sharma and Wyatt	13
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Nay:	Councillors Durand-Wood and Gilroy	2
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Carried

Vanessa Macrae submitted a communication in support of the matter.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 19, 2026, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the park located in front of the Burton Cummings Theatre is currently known as ‘Odeon Park’;

AND WHEREAS the creation of a plaza and realignment of the median across from the theatre, bordered by Smith Street, Notre Dame Avenue and King Street, has been over five years in the making;

AND WHEREAS for the past 45 years, the adjacent Burton Cummings Theatre has served as a gathering place and iconic landmark for arts, music, and live performance in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS Kevin Walters was a pivotal figure in Winnipeg’s music industry, known for his decades-long career as a promoter, manager, and tireless advocate for artists and cultural development in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the new plaza was always meant to reflect the professional and cultural standards that Kevin Walters exemplified;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

AND WHEREAS the proposal has garnered widespread support among various stakeholders and communities that Kevin worked with, as noted in Appendix A;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Welcoming Winnipeg Policy be waived, and the park located at the junction of Smith Street and Notre Dame Avenue, known as ‘Odeon Park’, be officially renamed to ‘Kevin Walters Plaza’.
2. That funding for the signage be approved from the Assiniboia Community Committee Land Dedication Reserve (Charleswood-Tuxedo-Westwood Ward allocation).
3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.