

No. 19-23-OR

AN ORDINANCE

An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and the Law Department to rename the Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 located within Fox Chapel Borough and O’Hara Township, Allegheny County.

Whereas, the County currently owns and maintains the Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8; and

Whereas, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), a federal body created in 1890 and established in its present form by Public Law in 1947, is tasked with maintaining uniform geographic name usage throughout the United States; and

Whereas, the BGN has found that the word, “squaw,” is a derogatory term and, in support thereof, announced in 2022 that it would eliminate the word “squaw” within the names of all federal roads, streams, and parks across the United States. In doing so, the name of the stream that runs under the Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 was changed from Squaw Run to Sycamore Run; and

Whereas, the renaming of the Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 to the Sycamore Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 would eliminate the derogatory word “squaw” from the names of these bridges and match the name of the stream running beneath them; and

Whereas, such renaming constitutes a valid public purpose serving the interests of the residents of the County.

The Council of the County of Allegheny hereby enacts as follows:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of the Preamble.

The provisions set forth in the preamble to this Ordinance are incorporated by reference as set forth in their entirety herein.

SECTION 2. Authorization to Rename Bridges and Enroll Same in the Records of Allegheny County.

County Council authorizes the renaming of the County’s Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 to the Sycamore Run Bridges Nos 1-8. The Department of Public Works and all other departments within County government are directed to enroll the renamed bridges as County bridges within their official records.

SECTION 3. Severability.

If any provision of this Ordinance shall be determined to be unlawful, invalid, void or unenforceable, then that provision shall be considered severable from the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, which shall be in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. Repealer.

Any Resolution or Ordinance or part thereof conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed so far as the some affects this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. Effective Date.

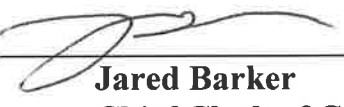
This Ordinance shall enter into effect immediately.

Enacted in Council, this 20th day of June, 2023.

Council Agenda No. 12713-23



Patrick Catena
President of Council

Attest: 

Jared Barker
Chief Clerk of Council

Chief Executive Office June 20th, 2023.

Approved: 

Rich Fitzgerald
Chief Executive

Attest: 

Jennifer Liptak
County Manager/Chief of Staff

Summary

The attached legislation would authorize the renaming of eight (8) Allegheny County bridges located in Fox Chapel Borough and O'Hara Township, changing their current names from the Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 to their new name, the Sycamore Run Bridges Nos. 1-8, in order to eliminate the derogatory word "squaw" and to correlate the name of these bridges to the name of the stream that runs under them - Sycamore Run.

M E M O R A N D U M
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

TO: Jared E. Barker
Allegheny County Council

FROM: Jennifer M. Liptak
County Manager

DATE: June 1, 2023

RE: Proposed Ordinance

Attached is an Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and the Law Department to rename the Squaw Run Bridges Nos. 1-8 located within Fox Chapel Borough and O'Hara Township, Allegheny County.

The Allegheny County Law Department has reviewed this legislation prior to submitting it to Council.

I am requesting that this item be placed on the agenda at the next Regular Meeting of Council.