

RESOLUTION NO: 14-2007
INTRODUCED BY Mayor Ursu and All of Council

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NAMES FOR ALL OF THE SIGNIFICANT STREAMS IN RICHMOND HEIGHTS THAT DRAIN INTO EUCLID CREEK AND THE EAST BRANCH OF EUCLID CREEK

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond Heights has been working with the nine municipal member Euclid Creek Watershed Council and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District to develop the Euclid Creek Watershed Plan to protect and restore the watershed to meet water quality standards set forth by the federal Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, one primary objective of the Euclid Creek Watershed Plan is to encourage all of the member municipalities to establish names for all of the significant streams that course through each municipality and drain into Euclid Creek and the East Branch of Euclid Creek; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond Heights, after consultation with appropriate authorities, and in accordance with guidelines established by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names of the U.S. Geological Survey, has developed a Naming Plan for the significant streams that course through the City, which Plan is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond Heights proposes to submit the stream names proposed in Exhibit "A" to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names of the U.S. Geological Survey, and following approval, to utilize the approved stream names on all local maps, as appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the City of Richmond Heights, State of Ohio, that,

Section 1: The Mayor and Council of the City of Richmond Heights do hereby accept the Naming Plan for the significant streams that course through the City, which is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A", which specifically recommends the following stream names:

Verbsky Creek
Redstone Run
Stevenson Brook
Claribel Creek
East Branch of Euclid Creek (name currently in use)

Section 2: The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, along with the required application forms, as required.

Section 3: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in

such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4: This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

Daniel J. Ursu, Mayor

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____

Betsy Traben
Clerk of Council

David H. Roche
President of Council

EXHIBIT "A"
to
Resolution No. 14-2007

City of Richmond Heights, Ohio
Stream Naming Project

The City of Richmond Heights, in supporting the aims of the Euclid Creek Watershed Council, proposes to establish formal names for those significant streams which flow in a northwesterly direction in Richmond Heights into Euclid Creek or into the East Branch of Euclid Creek. These streams may justify rigorous conservation efforts in the future and naming such streams serves the public interest.

The following is a listing of those significant streams, including descriptions of the stream locations, and the historical rationale for the proposed names. The streams are also shown on the attached companion map, entitled Exhibit "B".

(Also below at page A-3, for reference only, is a list of less visible streams that are basically ditch and/or storm sewer systems, and for which formal names are not being considered.)

FIVE SIGNIFICANT STREAMS (with suggested names for four)

1. VERBSKY CREEK

This stream begins in farm ditches flowing north of Ammon Drive in the City of South Euclid that drain into a ditch along the south line of homes on (old) Catlin Road, on the South Euclid/Richmond Heights border. The stream flows westerly through a 42" culvert behind the Donna Drive condominiums, then northerly through a scenic ravine on the former Lustrick/Urankar property, and through a 72" culvert under Highland Road. The stream then joins storm sewers on the north side of Highland Road, enters a ravine along the south side of the Rushmore Subdivision, and flows west under Highland Road to Euclid Creek in the Cleveland Metroparks. A housing subdivision has been proposed for the former Urankar property, however, the wetlands and ravine formed by the stream will be placed in a conservation easement, to be owned by the City of Richmond Heights. The length of this creek is about 6,000 feet.

The Verbsky family moved into Richmond Heights from Bohemia in 1861, and purchased 600 acres straddling Highland Road that were drained by this stream. They later built a home and a sawmill. Their children and grandchildren were active members of the Richmond Heights community. Hence the name, "Verbsky Creek".

2. REDSTONE RUN

Storm drainage from Richmond Towne Square Mall ("Mall") at the northeast corner of Richmond Road and Wilson Mills Road flows through a culvert under Richmond Road, an open ditch between Hillary Lane and the Greek Orthodox Church, and behind homes

on the north side of Geraldine Avenue to a retention pond owned by the Mall. The retention pond drains into an open stream flowing northwest through the northeast corner of South Euclid, into twin 58" x 60" culverts under Hillary Lane and Trebisky Road, then northwesterly through a series of culverts and open ditches in (new) Catlin Road, (new) Harris Road and Karl Drive before crossing under Highland Road at the southwest corner of Highland Road and Karl Drive into a 60" culvert. The stream then enters a deep ravine west of (old) Harris Road, north of Hillcrest Drive and the Rushmore Subdivision before flowing under Highland Road at the City of Euclid border and into Euclid Creek in the Cleveland Metroparks. The entire length of this creek is about 14,000 feet.

An outcropping of reddish sandstone from the Devonian Berea formation, located north of the Mall area was quarried extensively in the late 1800's, hence the suggested name, "Redstone Run".

3. STEVENSON BROOK

This stream begins at the northwest corner of Richmond Road and Foxlair Trail. Flow from a retention pond on the east side of Richmond Road serving the Richwood Subdivision, and from storm sewers north of the Mall on Richmond Road ends in a headwall west of Tally Ho Lane in the Foxcroft Subdivision. The stream then flows west along the north side of the new Highland Woods Cluster Home project north of Foxwynde Trail, into a 91"x 58" oval culvert running north in Snavely Road and under Highland Road. The culvert then changes into a 72" pipe and flows northwesterly under Dumbarton Boulevard and into a ravine that deepens as it flows north under vacated Euclid Chagrin Boulevard and into a deeper ravine between Dumbarton Boulevard, Claymore Boulevard and Balmoral Drive and then into the East Branch of Euclid Creek. The shallow ravine between Dumbarton Boulevard and Douglas Boulevard contains at least one shallow silted up lake behind a substantial masonry dam, and there are remnants of earlier collapsed dam structures downstream, all on private properties, that suggest historic gristmills or sawmills. The length of this creek is about 10,000 feet.

The Stevenson Family came to Richmond Heights from Rochester, England and Cleveland in 1837. John and Mary Stevenson, and their children, owned several properties on either side of Richmond Road, north of the Mall, and operated stone quarries there until 1930. Stone from these quarries was used in many structures throughout Richmond Heights and the Hillcrest area. Hence, the suggested name, "Stevenson Brook".

4. CLARIBEL CREEK

This stream comes from a small retention pond in the Glen Eden Subdivision that collects a series of drainage ditches and storm sewers draining the southwest corner of the City of Highland Heights. The stream flows north through a box culvert under Highland Road at the border of Richmond Heights and Highland Heights, then flows westerly in an open ditch along the north side of Highland Road, under several bridges through Richmond Heights Park, past the Police Station, and behind City Hall. The stream then flows under Richmond Road, along the north side of the Post Office, and through several back yards off Richmond Road and Highland Road before entering the heavily silted up Mayfair

Lake. The stream exits the Mayfair Lake dam and flows north in a deep ravine between private home sites in the Scottish Highlands and Richmond Bluffs Subdivisions, before entering the East Branch of Euclid Creek. The length of this creek is about 10,000 feet.

The City is placing an environmental deed restriction over that part of the creek between City Hall and the Park. There are several opportunities for stream restoration, from the Highland Heights border to the Mayfair Lake dam, which are being pursued by the City.

The name Claribel appears to have come from the name of the daughter of one of Richmond Heights' first postmasters, in 1892. The name later was attached to the Claribel School, Claribel Corners (Highland Road and Richmond Road) and the Village of Claribel, until the Village was changed formally to Richmond Heights in 1918. Hence the suggested name, "Claribel Creek", which rekindles a title important to the formation of Richmond Heights.

5. EAST BRANCH OF EUCLID CREEK

Several large tributaries from the City of Highland Heights, Mayfield Village and the City of Willoughby Hills join together in a stream flowing west, north of White Road, between Bishop and Richmond Roads. As it enters Richmond Heights, it has been called the East Branch of Euclid Creek. The East Branch flows behind the homes on the north side of White Road, and at a point about 500 feet east of Richmond Road, flows south between the City Service Department property and the Degutis property, and then along the north side of White Road before crossing under the bridge at Richmond Road.

At the Richmond/White Road Bridge, the creek channel is about 20 feet deep. It then falls rapidly as it flows southwesterly along the south side of the homes on the south side of Chardon Road, forming a ravine approximately 150 feet deep by the time the East Branch exits Richmond Heights adjacent to Balmoral Drive. The East Branch ravine continues westerly between Chardon Road and Harms Road in the City of Euclid before joining Euclid Creek in the Cleveland Metroparks at Highland Road in Euclid. The length of the East Branch in Richmond Heights is about 12,000 feet.

The City of Richmond Heights currently owns several properties in the East Branch ravine, and there are numerous opportunities for conservation there. The existing recognized stream name, "EAST BRANCH OF EUCLID CREEK", will be retained.

NOTE: The following drainage ways are not a part of this stream naming plan.

FOUR DRAINAGE DITCH/STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (without steam names)

The following drainage ditch/storm sewer systems are included for reference purposes only. Because of their limited visibility, and because they flow mainly in ditches or culvert pipes, formal steam names are not considered appropriate. However they are described and named for possible use in future drainage system maps.

HILLTOP/MONTICELLO DRAINAGE SYSTEM

This early farm ditch collects drainage from the Hilltop Shopping Center at the southeast corner of Richmond Road and Monticello Boulevard/Wilson Mills Road and from storm sewers flowing north into Richmond Heights from the City of Lyndhurst. The flow is collected in a manhole behind the Monticello Baptist Church at the southwest corner of the intersection, and then flows west out of a headwall on the west side of the church parking lot, and into a ditch behind 13 homes on the south side of Monticello Boulevard, a distance of 960 feet before entering a 48" culvert that flows into the City of Lyndhurst at Delevan Drive, and thence ultimately into Euclid Creek in South Euclid.

The name is chosen simply to denote the location.

RICHMOND DRAINAGE SYSTEM

A system of drainage ditches on the Cuyahoga County Airport property empties into two culverts flowing west under Richmond Road, south of Allendale Drive, the ditches join and form a ravine that flows behind Fairlawn Drive and north through a culvert under Richmond Bluffs Drive, and into a deep ravine that joins the East Branch of Euclid Creek south of Chardon Road at Beverly Hills Drive. Total length of this system is about 6,000 feet.

The name was chosen to honor the Richmond Family who owned property that this system drained, which later became part of the Cuyahoga County Airport.

SWETLAND DRAINAGE SYSTEM

This drainage ditch, constructed in 1975, flows westerly along the north line of the Richmond Bluffs Subdivision, picks up storm sewers from the Bluffs Subdivision, and then flows into a ravine at the west end of Karen Isle Drive and into the East Branch of Euclid Creek south of Edgemont Drive. Total length of this system is about 2,400 feet.

The name was chosen to honor the Swetland Family, who purchased property from the Richmonds and built a summer home on their estate on the west side of Richmond Road, across from Curtis Wright Parkway. Their property ultimately became the Richmond Bluffs Subdivision.

PELTON DRAINAGE SYSTEM

Several small streams on the east side of Richmond Road, and a number of drainage ditches on the Cuyahoga County Airport property, north and west of Curtis Wright Parkway, were collected into a storm sewer system which was constructed by Cuyahoga County in about 1989. This storm sewer runs north, then crosses under Richmond Road in a 72" culvert south of White Road and enters the East Branch of Euclid Creek. Total length of this system is about 4,400 feet.

The name was chosen because this area was originally known as Pelton's Corners. The Pelton Family, who were very early settlers, once operated a sawmill on this corner utilizing the East Branch of Euclid Creek.

Lee Gase
Feb 2007