

City of Racine, Wisconsin
Office of the Mayor
Cory Mason



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Representative Angelina Cruz to Chair Community Center Renaming Committee

Residents Encouraged to Submit Name Suggestions to Rep. Cruz

Racine, WI – The City of Racine is launching a community process to select a new name for the Community Center at Douglas Park, formerly known as the Cesar Chavez Community Center. Mayor Cory Mason has appointed Representative Angelina Cruz, one of Racine's most prominent Latina elected leaders, to chair an ad hoc committee that will gather public input and recommend a new name for the facility.

Through the ad hoc committee, residents will have an opportunity to submit name suggestions and help identify a name that reflects the character and spirit of Racine.

"After learning about the horrific reports that Cesar Chavez sexually assaulted young women, I believe our community deserves a name that better reflects the values we hold today," said Mayor Mason. "That's why I'm asking residents to help identify a name that honors our community and the people this center serves."

Representative Cruz will lead the public engagement process, including accepting name suggestions from residents and recruiting community members interested in serving on the ad hoc committee.

"I'm honored that Mayor Mason has asked me to lead this effort," said Representative Cruz. "I look forward to hearing from residents across Racine and working with the ad hoc committee to recommend a name that reflects our shared values and the spirit of this community."

Residents are invited to submit name suggestions to Representative Cruz by **September 1, 2026**.

Email: Rep.Cruz@legis.wisconsin.gov

Phone: 888-534-0062

The City is following the same process used during the facility's previous renaming by establishing an ad hoc committee to gather public input and develop a recommendation. The committee will review public input and recommend a single name to the Board of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS). The Board will consider the recommendation before forwarding it to the Racine Common Council for final consideration later this fall.

"The PRCS Board looks forward to receiving the committee's recommendation after this community engagement process is complete," said Board Chair Keith Hemmig. "We appreciate everyone who takes the time to participate."

Additional information about the committee and the renaming process will be shared as it becomes available.

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***Racine, Wisconsin**, is a thriving city located on Lake Michigan with a rich history and diverse population of about 78,000. Known for its historic downtown, award-winning architecture, top freshwater beach, strong community, and notable contributions to history and innovation, Racine is a wonderful place to live, work, and explore. From its progressive history as part of the Underground Railroad to its status as the Kringle Capital of America, there's always something new to discover in Racine.*