



MEMORANDUM TO VENICE CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH CHARTER OFFICER: James Clinch, City Manager **E-SIGN:** 
FROM: Rick Simpson, Director of Public Works and Asset Management 
DEPARTMENT: Public Works
DATE: December 22, 2025 **MEETING DATE:** January 13, 2026

SUBJECT / TOPIC: Renaming of the Centennial Park Gazebo

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City Council initiated an application to rename the Centennial Park Gazebo in recognition of Robert and Susan Vedder for their longstanding service and contributions to the City of Venice. Robert Vedder was instrumental in securing the funding necessary for the construction of the original gazebo at Centennial Park. In addition, both Robert and Susan Vedder have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the Venice community through extensive volunteer efforts that have enhanced the quality of life for City residents.

Approval of the resolution would formally rename the Centennial Park Gazebo as the Robert and Susan Vedder Gazebo, effective immediately upon adoption.

The estimated cost associated with this renaming is \$1,250-\$1,500. This cost includes the following: (1) design and fabrication of a permanent replacement sign or plaque, (2) removal of existing signage if applicable, and (3) installation of new signage. Funding for this expense can be accommodated within the existing departmental budget.

The Public Works Department has provided an example of the new proposed plaque.

SUPPORTS STRATEGIC PLAN: Goal One: Keep Venice Beautiful and Eco-Friendly

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED: For Council Adoption by Motion

Yes N/A

- Document(s) Reviewed for ADA compliance (required if for agenda posting)
- City Attorney Reviewed/Approval
- Risk Management Review
- Finance Department Review/Approval

Funds Availability (account number):

GAZEBO
DONATED TO THE
PEOPLE OF VENICE
BY
FIRST FLORIDA
BANK
10-4-87



SHARK
Sculpture by
John C. H. Staub
1987

ROBERT AND SUSAN VEDDER

GAZEBO

DONATED TO THE PEOPLE OF VENICE

BY

FIRST FLORIDA BANK

OCTOBER 4, 1987



Council Memo - Renaming Centennial Park Gazebo

Final Audit Report

2025-12-22

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