

LV Panel Backs Proposal To Name Street After King

The Las Vegas Planning Commission this week endorsed a proposal to rename Highland Drive after slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Final approval for the street name change, however, must come from the City Council. The council is scheduled to consider the matter Dec. 3.

The Planning Commission voted 6-0 Thursday in favor of the name change.

However, the commission placed two conditions on its approval.

One is that the name change not take place for a year. The time lag is designed to give businesses along Highland Drive time to prepare for the change.

Another requirement is that the group of West Las Vegas businessmen requesting the change also approach the city of North Las Vegas about changing the name of the portion of Highland Drive that is within its city limits.

Las Vegas controls the section of Highland Drive between Oakey Boulevard and Carey Avenue. The portion north of Carey Avenue is within the boundaries of North Las Vegas.

Josh Elliott, an accountant and one of the businessmen seeking the name change, said that naming the street after King would be an appropriate way "to honor one of our truly great leaders."

The same group of businessmen was unsuccessful earlier this year in persuading the City Council to create a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scenic Loop by renaming portions of three streets on the Westside.

Council members said that renaming parts of three streets would be confusing for the firefighters and police officers answering emergencies.

Haitian Father Of Missing NLV Boy Makes Tearful Plea

By Harold Hyman
Sun Staff Writer

NORTH LAS VEGAS—A tearful young father, fearful for the safety of his long-missing tot, Friday called upon his ex-wife and her new husband to come forward and reveal what they know of the fate of Francillion "Yo" Pieree, 3.

Speaking softly in a strong Haitian accent, John Pierre, 28, made the plea in a press conference at North Las Vegas Police headquarters.

He had come here from Haiti on Wednesday "to help all I can, 100 percent," in the ongoing probe, Pierre said.

At the same press conference, detectives declared that Pierre himself had been totally cleared of any suspicion in the disappearance of the child

from a North Las Vegas swap meet last Aug. 2.

The boy's mother, Amy, had earlier accused Pierre, her ex-husband, in statements to police and to reporters, of kidnapping "Yo," as the child was known, and spiriting him away to Haiti.

However, Lt. Dorin Goudreau said Friday, "We are quite sure he (Pierre) is not a suspect."

Pierre was in no way involved in the probable abduction nor was he in any way a conspirator in whatever happened to the boy, Goudreau said.

Amy, and her then-fiance, Lee Luster, originally reported to police that the child was missing. The couple has since married.

They explained at the time that "Yo," vanished from the Broad Access Swap meet, Las Vegas Boulevard North

at Pecos Road, when they took their eyes off him momentarily to focus on a bicycle

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