

Columbus Avenue Renaming Discussion

May 19th, 2026





Columbus Ave. Renaming Discussion

- **January 26, 2026 Council Meeting**

- Several residents spoke in favor of renaming Columbus Ave. due to its negative connotation to the Native Community.
- Hozhóóné, meaning “beauty, harmony, and balance was a recommended name.

- **February 17 2026 Council Meeting**

- Future Agenda Item Request: A Citizen Petition Titled “Changing the name of Columbus Ave. to an Indigenous representative name”.
- Michele John spoke on behalf of students from the Kinsey Elementary School and Flagstaff High School’s Native American Club to request that Columbus Ave. be renamed to something more appropriate and reflective of the Native Community.

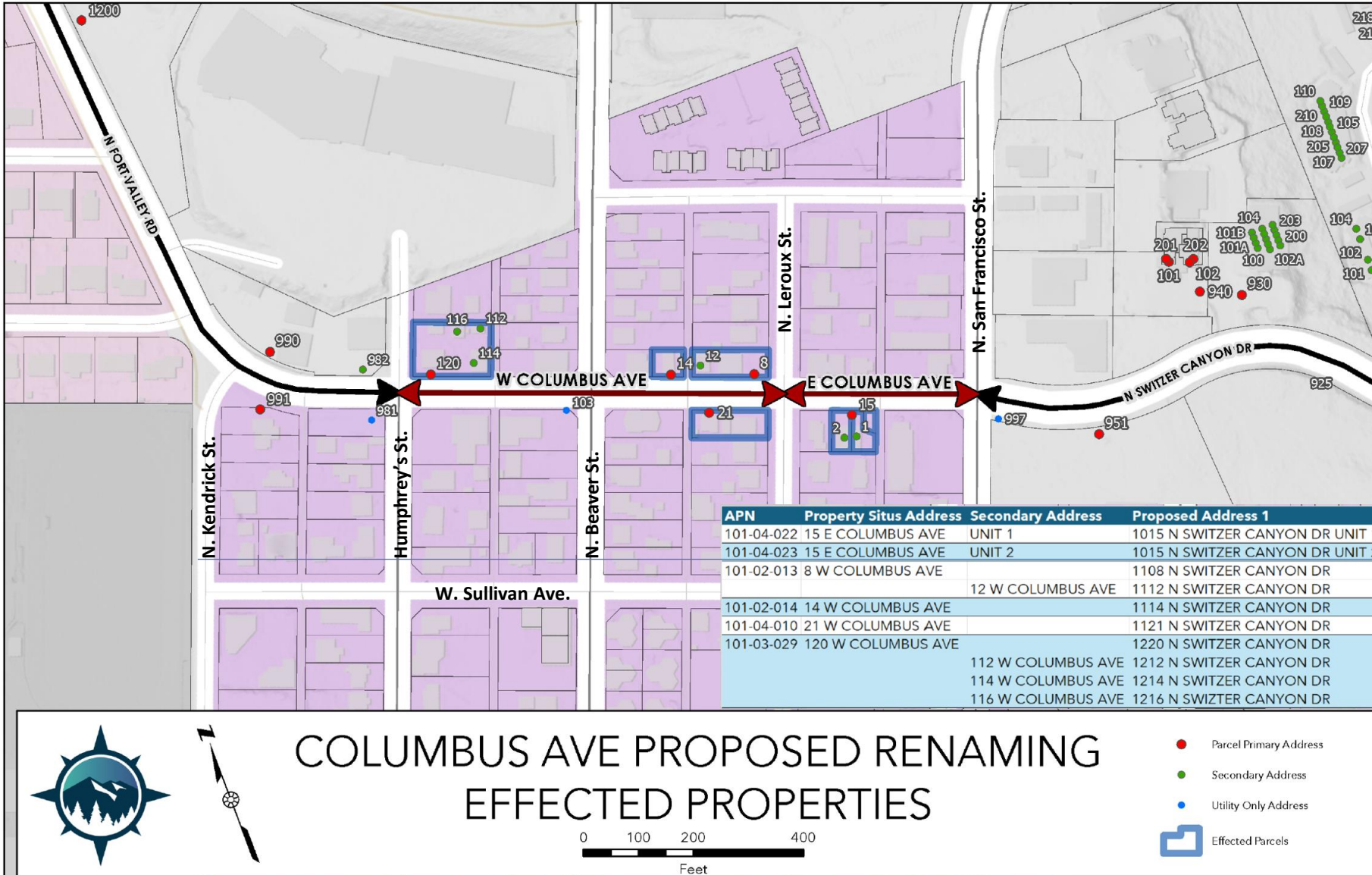


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Staff Research

- 6 affected parcels
- 10 address changes required





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Street Remaining Process

1. Residents/Owners file a change request with Addressing. Including the reason for change and a new proposed street name
2. Addressing will then:
 1. Evaluate how many addresses will be affected by the change and communicate this to the parties requesting the change.
 - i. The parties requesting the change will need to reach out to other residents/businesses that will be affected by the change (GIS can provide mailing addresses for internal customers if need)
 2. Contact Emergency Response if the issue could affect their ability to respond.
3. To move forward with the street name change after it is approved internally (through Council, emergency response, Planning & Development Services or other legal channels).

Addressing will:

 1. File a street name approval form which will be sent to 911, County and the Postal Service for approval.
 2. Update Streets data with the approved street name
 - i. Provide Public Works a sign list with names and address ranges for sign replacement
 1. Re-address the addresses on the street
 - i. Send out documentation for property owners
 - ii. Inform County, Utilities and 911 about the address changes
 - iii. Leave a 60-day window for property owners to change personal files before decommissioning the old addresses

Note: Affected property owners should be made aware of potential street name change as it will affect personal mailing materials, property address numbers, etc.



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Staff Recommendation

- If City Council desires to rename Columbus Avenue, it is Staff's recommendation to rename the street to Switzer Canyon Drive to provide conformity of street names in the area.



Questions?

