



CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 6.5

DATE: February 9, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Brent Smith, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Resolution approving the naming of the Community Meeting Room at the Livermore Railroad Depot in honor of Alan Frank.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the City Council approve the resolution to name the newly renovated Community Meeting Room at the Livermore Railroad Depot in honor of Alan Frank. The Railroad Depot building and land is owned by the City of Livermore and is located at 2500 Railroad Avenue at the Livermore Transit Center.

DECISION TYPE

Administrative

SUMMARY

The Rotary Club of Livermore, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley, the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore, and the Livermore Heritage Guild, is renovating the freight room at the Livermore Railroad Depot to a Community Meeting Room as a community project. The Railroad Depot building and land is owned by the City of Livermore and is located at 2500 Railroad Avenue at the Livermore Transit Center. The renovation includes a kitchenette, accessible bathroom, painting, and other renovations. Alan Frank was a long-time member of the Livermore Rotary Club and was active in the Livermore Heritage Guild, with particular interest in local railroads, and was appointed the City Historian in March 2024 by the City Council. In fact, he wrote and published three books on local railroads and history and spearheaded the relocation and renovation of the Sunol Railroad Depot and the Livermore Railroad Depot Building, where the Community Meeting Room is located.

Therefore, staff recommends the City Council approve the resolution naming the new Community Meeting Room at the Livermore Railroad Depot in honor of Alan Frank, consistent with the City's adopted naming policy. Mr. Frank passed away in July 2025.

DISCUSSION

Alan Frank, a long-time resident of Livermore, made significant contributions to the arts and heritage of the community. Mr. Frank moved to Livermore in 1974 to work at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Mr. Frank had a variety of interests including music, sailing, and photography. He was involved in several symphonies and choral groups throughout his life. He was a founding member of the Livermore Valley Opera and served on the Livermore Amador Symphony Board. Mr. Frank was a long-time member of the Livermore Rotary Club, supporting its projects around town.

Livermore's heritage and trains were also passions of Mr. Frank. He volunteered with the Pacific Locomotive Association relating to the Niles Canyon Railroad and its restoration. Due to his efforts, the Niles Canyon Railroad was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. He retired as historian and curator of the Niles Canyon Railway, where he was responsible for placing that segment of the original Transcontinental Railroad on the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. Frank's interest in local railroad history led to him writing three books about Livermore's railroad history – *Depot, Parallel Paths and Livermore: Frontier to City*.

Mr. Frank was the historic consultant to the City of Livermore for the relocation and refurbishment of the 1892 Central Pacific Railroad Depot in Livermore (aka the Livermore Railroad Depot). The move occurred in 2017 and was part of a project to restore the building to historical standards for use as a transit ticket office and connection point for Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), LAVTA bus services and Amtrak connections.

The Joint Policy for Naming Recreational and Municipal Facilities, adopted by the City Council and the Livermore Recreation and Park District Board in 2008, outlines the criteria for naming new or existing recreational and municipal facilities. If a municipal facility is to be named for an individual, they should have made exceptional contributions to the community, including distinguished public service or community activities. Additional criteria include a direct substantial contribution to the facility being named. As outlined above, the proposal to name the Community Meeting Room at the Livermore Railroad Depot to honor Alan Frank is consistent with the naming policy criteria.

In recognition of Mr. Frank's significant contribution to the community, the Livermore Rotary Club requests the City Council name the new meeting room at the Livermore Railroad Depot the "Alan Frank Community Meeting Room"

FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACTS

The Livermore Rotary Club will provide the name plaque. There will be minimal City costs associated with installation of the plaque.

COMMUNITY PILLAR

4. Inclusive & Inviting Spaces & Places

GOAL

1. Further enhance Livermore's unique sense of place

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution

Prepared by: Susan Frost
Special Projects Coordinator

Approved by:



Marianna A. Burch
City Manager

Fiscal Review by:



Tina Olson
Administrative Services Director