

## Levesque, Jennifer

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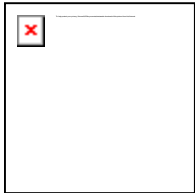
**From:** Alejandro Jurado [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:21 PM  
**To:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** Public Comment Item J1

Hello city leaders,  
My name is Alejandro Jurado. I'd like to submit a public comment for agenda Item J1.

I am a community member and a youth program coordinator at the Youth leadership Institute. I am reaching out to show my support for the naming of the park on 11th and H, "Little Angels Park". Working with young people in Merced has been a powerful experience and it has also shown me how embedded community violence is in the lives of our youth. There are many reasons for this, such as lack of resources in areas like the south side of town. The intent for the name and the vision of this park is to create a space for healing where communities can come together and support one another. There are broader oppressive systems that make it difficult for our communities to thrive and addressing community violence requires a shift from the way we punish our most vulnerable communities. However, allowing spaces like these to bloom throughout town is a good place to start. These spaces help us build community and healing for those who need it the most.

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**Alejandro Jurado**  
*Program Coordinator*



Youth Leadership Institute  
470 W. Main St Suite 15  
Merced Ca. 95340  
[REDACTED]

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