

Date of Hearing: April 25, 2022

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Laura Friedman, Chair

ACR 138 (Flora) – As Introduced February 14, 2022

SUBJECT: Mayor Jack Snyder Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designates a portion of State Route 120 in the City of Manteca, from postmarker R1.845 to postmarker R6.431, as the Mayor Jack Snyder Memorial Highway.

EXISTING LAW: Assigns the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways. This includes the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown, but the measure requests that Caltrans determine the cost of appropriate signage consistent with requirements for the state highway system, and only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: Mayor Jack C. Snyder was a devoted family man whose life was dedicated to heartfelt public service. Snyder was born in the City of Toledo, Ohio, on November 25, 1926, and moved to the City of Manteca, California, in 1962, where the impact he made lasts to this day.

Although Snyder was preceded in death by his first wife, Rosellen Snyder, he is survived by their children, Scott Snyder, Sue Ann Fink, Steven Snyder, and Sherry Frisk; by his wife Barbara; by his step-children, Debbie Bowen and Lisa Crowley; and by 11 grandchildren, 5 step-grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Snyder's dedication to serving his community began on the Manteca City Council, where he served for 24 years, the longest tenure in the City of Manteca's 103-year municipal history. As an example of his ability to move past unthinkable obstacles, Snyder worked tirelessly to gain support for the approval to build the State Route 120 bypass despite his colleagues' skepticism of the project.

Snyder enlisted a group of dedicated volunteers to spend their weekends traveling to the bay area to help gain support for a State Route 120 bypass by handing out flyers, speaking on radio stations, reaching out to newspapers, and speaking with commuters who were traveling to and from the bay area, facing incredible amounts of traffic in the Manteca area.

Snyder was able to successfully gain the needed support to begin building the highway and stunned those who believed that his goal was not obtainable. In his lifetime of service, Snyder's many accomplishments and strategic way of thinking helped develop Manteca into the city it is today.

Snyder was instrumental in the creation of a greatly needed community park for children, young adults, and families. Snyder's colleagues on the Manteca City Council were supportive of bypassing an opportunity for a new local park by allowing the land to be sold to housing

developers instead. Snyder prevailed by garnering plentiful community support that would eventually lead to the creation of what is now known as Northgate Community Park.

Snyder continued his work supporting children and youth who often faced juvenile delinquency issues in the community by creating a local branch of the Boys & Girls Club of America in the 1970s. Snyder loyally served on the local Boys & Girls Club of America Board for decades to come. Snyder's creative thinking led to the annual Boys & Girls Club of America Telethon, which has been the largest fundraiser for the local chapter of the organization since its first year.

Snyder was also crucial to the establishment of a local citizens volunteer corps titled "Seniors Helping Area Residents and Police," which was dedicated to helping patrol officers free up time by assisting with routine duties and serving as extra eyes throughout neighborhoods.

For many decades, Snyder's keen and intelligent problem-solving skills led to a meaningful difference in the community, resulting in positive change for residents of the City of Manteca, where he is known to have been a steadfast leader. Snyder passed away on April 20, 2021, at 94 years of age

According to the author, "Mayor Jack Snyder was crucial to the development of the City of Manteca. He dedicated many years of his life to serving the community. Overall Mayor Snyder was incredibly dedicated to Manteca, both as a City Council member, Mayor and community member."

Committee Comments: It is the intent of the Assembly Transportation Committee to use the Memorial Highway Naming process to honor deceased Californians who have made significant public service contributions and also to reflect the diversity of our state. Currently, most named highways in California are for fallen male public safety officers, who made the ultimate sacrifice, and for whom we are indebted. However, these names do not fully represent the wide range of types of public service contributions, as well as the gender and racial diversity of California's communities. The Assembly Transportation Committee is committed to working with the Department of Transportation in the upcoming year to improve the naming process to ensure greater equity and to better represent the diversity of California.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file.

Opposition

None on file.

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