

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:14 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Karen
Last Name	Knoebber
Address1	428 N Harrison St
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Fort Bragg
State	Ca
Zip	95437
Phone Number	707 964 1680
Email Address	Nobler @ mcn.org
(Section Break)	
Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	I request you put the question "Should we change the name of our town" on the next ballot and allow residents to vote. Myself, I often use the name "Noyo" and would love to see name officially changed. Thanks for considering getting rid of Fort Bragg!

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 12:40 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Joyce
Last Name	Hsiao
Address1	4010 Random Lane
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Sacramento
State	CA
Zip	95864
Phone Number	9164815371
Email Address	hsiao.joyce@gmail.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
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Question / Comment	<p>As a frequent visitor to Fort Bragg, I would like to encourage the City Council to initiate the process of changing the name of your beautiful city. Given the global outcry for social justice amidst a pandemic of unforeseen proportions, it is now time for this country -- and especially California -- to acknowledge and to disavow mistakes from its past. How hard can it be to abandon the name of an ignominious confederate officer? The minor one-time capital expense would pale compared to the long-term, future benefits to not only the city itself and its many tourists, but also to California as a forward-thinking state and to the U.S. as a country in desperate need to make positive changes toward social justice. We have visited Fort Bragg nearly every year, sometimes twice a year, for nearly 40 years now, and have walked miles and miles along the stunning beaches. It would be even more stunning if during my lifetime,</p>
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we can see real implementation of social justice through discarding the name of Braxton Bragg from the city and making history that we and future generations can be proud of.

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Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 4:28 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Robert
Last Name	Bragg
Address1	13066 Aqueduct Grove Road
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Pine Grove
State	California
Zip	95665
Phone Number	+34 645 215 909
Email Address	robertbragg@present-tense-living.com
(Section Break)	
Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	As you can see, my last name is Bragg. My father's name was Charles Braxton Bragg. We were / are descendants of Gen. Braxton Bragg. I fully support removing Gen. Bragg's name from the city and changing it to something harmonious with the Northern California I was born and raised in. Please do it.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 1:06 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Peter
Last Name	Illes
Address1	2539A Polk St.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	San Francisco
State	CA
Zip	94109
Phone Number	4156780087
Email Address	prilles@yahoo.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	<p>I'm a desert storm veteran and think it is honorable you are pondering changing your city's name (or at least putting it up for a vote). Let's assume that vote will pass, I suggest:</p> <p>Renaming your city to something no one can object to, like after military person from your area killed in battle, fighting for the USA.</p> <p>If naming your city after a person proves difficult, then here are some names that no one can argue with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AchievementAllegianceAmbitionAmericaBravery

Camaraderie
Candor
Commitment
Community
Conviction
Cooperation
Courage
Dedication
Dignity
Diligence
Endurance
Equality
Excellence
Fidelity
Focus
Fortitude
Hope
Honor
Independence
Innovation
Integrity
Ingenuity
Justice
Knowledge
Leadership
Liberty
Loyalty
Patriot/ism
Perseverance
Pinnacle
Potential
Pride
Promise
Prosperity
Purpose
Quality
Respect
Reverence
Rigor
Service
Solidarity
Strength
Success
Teamwork
Tolerance
Triumph
Trust
Truth

Union
Unity
Valor
Victory
Vigilance
Vision
Zenith

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:58 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Roxana
Last Name	Hart
Address1	10460 E. Oakbrook St.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	<i>Field not completed.</i>
State	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Zip	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Phone Number	52-951-603-4466
Email Address	roxana_hart@mail.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	<p>I decided to look up some famous Native American women and found this one that I think would be a great woman to honor:</p> <p>Pine Leaf (not only is that a great name for a northern California town, but fits in with your town's history of being named after a warrior):</p> <p>Bíawacheeitchish, in English Woman Chief (c. 1806 – 1858), was a bacheeítche (chief) and warrior of the Crow people. Interested in traditionally male pursuits from an early age, she became one of the Crows' most significant leaders, joining the Council of Chiefs as the third ranking member.</p> <p>SEE MORE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woman_Chief</p>

And, wouldn't it be great to be, perhaps, the first town or city named after a woman (I haven't researched this claim)? Think about it.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:36 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Jay
Last Name	Scott
Address1	50 sunshinecwsy
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Eureka
State	Ca
Zip	95503
Phone Number	9493513023
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>
(Section Break)	
Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	You ever read history of Gen Bragg? You may change blame fast. Check but out. Thank you

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 1:54 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Paul
Last Name	Elias
Address1	12125 Crystal Springs
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Grass Valley
State	CA
Zip	95945
Phone Number	5304146055
Email Address	ppcpaule2000@gmail.com
(Section Break)	
Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	Time to consider a name change from Confederate General Braxton Bragg to anything but a Confederate Gen. I love your City and surrounding beauty. The name doesn't do justice it justice. Glad to see military bases renaming. Your turn.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 3:19 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Janine
Last Name	Vigus
Address1	834 Alameda Street
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Altadena
State	CA
Zip	91001
Phone Number	323 395-8231
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>
(Section Break)	
Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	Please re-name Fort Bragg. The time has come not to honor the Confederacy—name it for the fellow who named it after Braston Bragg instead, if you want to keep the military heritage. Since understanding the connection, I will always think of this when visiting, and I'd like to believe we can all take a stand against the heritage of slavery.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: philip zwerling <pzwerling@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: public comment for June 22 City Council meeting

City Clerk,

I would heartily support placing the question of changing the name of the City of 'Fort Bragg' on the November ballot so all residents may participate in this decision.

Thank you.

Phil

Philip Zwerling, Ph.D.

<http://www.philipzwerling.com>

Lemos, June

From: Elias Henderson <elias.c.henderson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 6:18 PM
To: Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Peters, Lindy; Lemos, June
Subject: Our City's Name - A Historical Perspective
Attachments: Opinion_EliasHenderson_061120.docx

Hello Council Members,

I am writing to add my voice to the growing chorus of community members urging a reconsideration of our town's name. I plan to present a historical perspective at the upcoming city council meeting, a summation of the piece I've attached below. I urge you to consider the deeper historical context of our town's name, and the way that it reinforces and glorifies the most violent and brutal aspects of both our nation and our town's past. Surely we can do better.

I don't ask that you find the courage to make this change. I simply ask that you put it in the hands of the voters. Put it on the ballot this November. **Let our community decide.**

Best,
Elias Henderson

Elias Henderson – June 11, 2020

With protests sweeping the country in the wake of the shocking murder of George Floyd, many concerned citizens have found themselves asking, “How can I help?” Luckily, if you live in Fort Bragg, the answer is simple. Change the town’s name.

In 2015, eight members of the California Legislative Black Caucus sent an eloquent, impassioned plea to our town’s leadership: “We are hopeful that you will engage your community in a serious reexamination of the historical implications of your city’s name and come to the conclusion that now is the time to end your ties to such a disgraced and treasonous figure in our nation’s history.” Then-mayor Lindy Peters responded, “You cannot change history.” Well, let’s talk about the “history” that is represented by the name Fort Bragg.

Braxton Bragg, our town’s namesake, was born in 1817. After graduating from West Point, he rose through the ranks to become a colonel in the United States Army. He won distinction for his role in the Mexican-American War, where he served under future president Zachary Taylor. A severe disciplinarian, he was so hated by many of his men that they twice attempted to assassinate him, once by detonating an artillery shell beneath his cot. Miraculously unscathed, he went on to retire from the US Army in 1856 and soon after purchased a sugar plantation and 105 enslaved African Americans.

Five years later, the Civil War broke out and again Bragg signed up to fight, this time as a general in the Confederate Army. After a string of ignominious defeats caused by strategic blunders, his resignation was accepted by Jefferson Davis in 1864. About the only good thing that can be said of Bragg is that his disastrous incompetence contributed to the military defeat of the Confederacy.

Why does our town bear the name of a disgraced Confederate general who never set foot here? The military post was established in 1857 in response to a petition from 51 settlers, all white men, who threatened an “Indian War” if the government did not protect “their property.” The lieutenant who founded the outpost named it for his former commanding officer, the soon-to-be confederate Braxton Bragg. For the next eight years, troops stationed in Fort Bragg subjugated the indigenous population, participating in violent campaigns against Native Americans as far north as Shelter Cove. After many of the remaining Native Americans were forcibly marched to Round Valley in 1865, the military post was abandoned. Thus ended the brief military history of Fort Bragg.

In his 2015 response to the Black Caucus, Peters went on to say, “We are a tight-knit community who do not favor changing our name, especially when pushed to do so by politicians who have never even visited our town and know nothing of our long and rich local history.” But one has to ask, which part of our “long and rich local history” is represented by the name Fort Bragg? Is it our non-existent connection to a slave-owning general who committed treason against his country? Or is it civic pride in the brief moment a century and a half ago that our town was used to perpetrate genocide against Native Americans, a handful of whom still live here?

There are numerous alternatives that bear actual, meaningful, and positive connections to our town’s history. I’m partial to Noyo, the name of a historical Pomo village near Virgin Creek and of the river to which our town owes much of its prosperity. Whatever name our community decides upon, we could hardly do worse.

Recently, the bastion of progressivism that is the United States Army announced its willingness to reconsider the name of its largest military base: Fort Bragg, NC. It is past time for our community to do the same. Join me in calling for the Fort Bragg City Council to place a referendum to this effect on the November ballot. Place the decision in the hands of our community. The time for cowering behind the threadbare excuse of "history" is over. The time for change is here.

Lemos, June

From: Nancy Harris <nancyh@mcn.org>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:59 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Public Comment for June 22 City Council Meeting

Hi June,

Thank you for including the following in the public comments to the City Council:

I urge the City Council to change the name of Fort Bragg to something else. If cities in southern U.S. states can take down confederate monuments and the U.S. Army can consider changing the names of army bases in order **not** to honor Confederate traitors, our city should have the decency to change its name too. This is a time of reckoning and endeavoring to deconstruct institutional racism. Let's be a part of that process.

Thank you for considering my suggestion,

Nancy Harris

Resident at 137 Olsen Lane since 1976

Lemos, June

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:11 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Please UPDATE, Junee

Let my voice RRRRRRROR, loud and clear...I join We, the Citizens of Fort Bragg, and the United States of America, who want to take this OPPORTUNITY to join the Country, and the World, to reflect, correct, and return our City's name to its original one; much like what an Antique Dealer would do to return a precious Antique to its original state.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]
Citizen 95437

Lemos, June

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 8:44 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Regarding Fort Bragg Grass Roots Name Change Agenda Item City Council June 22, 2020

June,

I vote for:

Noyo, California 95437

Thank you

Lemos, June

From: Melissa Hays <melissa@mcn.org>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 6:44 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: public comment
Attachments: Some might say it is too expensive.docx

Hi June,

Please enter this into the public comment regarding changing the name of Fort Bragg. I hope you are well!

Thank you,
Melissa Hays

Some might say changing the name of Fort Bragg is too expensive, too inconvenient, too controversial. Some have said "...if you dig hard enough, there probably isn't a town in this country that doesn't have some connection to bad dealings. You could find excuses all day long to change historical names because someone doesn't think something in the past was right. This political correctness needs to stop." Then there is the fact that Washington had slaves and Jefferson had slaves, or "why change the name just because it reflects an ugly or embarrassing episode in history?"

The fact that Fort Bragg was named in 1857 when Horatio Gates Gibson, a lieutenant serving at the Presidio of San Francisco, established a military post to keep control of the natives confined to the newly established Mendocino Indian Reservation is intolerable. The fact that Braxton Bragg owned 105 slaves is deplorable. It is time to take a stand against such heinous behavior. Please change the name Fort Bragg to Noyo, the name American Indians used for this area. By naming the city Noyo, we take a significant step in acknowledging social inequalities and racism, and our commitment to change.

Lemos, June

From: Norvell, Bernie
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Change this Racist, backward, dated-Confederate name of your city or expect tourism to change; Your city will be beholden to Trump, the Southern history of Racism, maybe you want to cater to Hate, White supremacy and Trump...

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

Begin forwarded message:

From: Yeff Blanco <yeffblanco@gmail.com>
Date: June 14, 2020 at 4:30:42 PM PDT
To: "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>
Cc: "Morsell-Haye, Jessica" <Jmorsellhay@fortbragg.com>, "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>, "Peters, Lindy" <LPeters2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: **Change this Racist, backward, dated-Confederate name of your city or expect tourism to change; Your city will be beholden to Trump, the Southern history of Racism, maybe you want to cater to Hate, White supremacy and Trump...**

Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Miller, Tabatha
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 9:09 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FW: Humble opinion

From: Christine Wyman [mailto:chipper2@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha <TMiller@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Humble opinion

I often visited your city growing up in Humboldt County. If rumors of a city renaming are true:

Consider “Glass Beach”

Representing diversity of color, acceptance of change, repurpose, renewal and undying strength. Sharp edges of a brutal history worn away by the sands of time; smooth beneath your feet. Harmless. Beautiful.

A spectrum of recycled glass—tumbled and redistributed on the beach annually would replenish and attract a never ending parade of visitors, thrilling for children and adults alike; also gifting the city with a theme for commerce; much like Mendocino is known for its art and artisans.

Christine Wyman, Redding, CA from iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Miller, Tabatha
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 9:09 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FW: Name change

-----Original Message-----

From: lynn flynn [mailto:lynnflunn@mac.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 2:15 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha <TMiller@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Name change

I saw in the SF paper you might want to change our towns name because of BLM. How about renaming it for the British Bragg Noble Prize winner in Physics from 1915. Science rules! And it's cheaper than reprinting everything.
Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Johanna <Johanna@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:50 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Letter to City Council in consideration of putting City name change on November ballot

Dear Fort Bragg City Council,

The question is not should we change the City's name, the question is should the issue be put on the November ballot. I realize you understand the difference, but a vocal segment of the community is already debating the merits of a name change and are seriously distressed at even the possibility of putting it to a vote. I'm writing to urge you to put it on November's ballot so all residents of Fort Bragg can vote on changing the City's names.

I understand there's a lot of social media chatter as well as a petition circulating asking you not to put the issue on the November ballot; kindly do not give either the chatter or the petition more significance than they deserve. The casual and unofficial nature of a petition makes it difficult to validate the authenticity of the petition's signatures or where the signers reside. An election on the other hand, allows you to know for certain whether City residents want a new name or not.

In addition, if you put the issue on the ballot residents will have time to discuss, consider and research the economic and ethical pros and cons before making an informed decision.

There will be time to ask the City's marketing consultants to see if our name is an obstacle to attracting visitors. If they find it is, they can forecast how much revenue a new name might provide, now and over time. We can also find out what a name change has cost other cities, such as the city of Lake Worth Beach <https://www.sun-sentinel.com/.../fl-ne-lake-worth-beach...>

Concurrent to considering the economic impact, we can explore an equally or more important question - the ethics of bearing the name of a confederate general and an ethnic oppressor.

If you put the question on the ballot Fort Bragg can decide if we want to embrace this unique opportunity to publicly support the ethnic populations the country has exploited then failed to embrace as citizens with equal protection under the law.

Put the issue on the ballot so we can start a meaningful dialog about whether this is a good way to show our collective remorse for the historic and ongoing wrongs done to people of color. We can and should consider how changing the City's name may, or may not be the solution.

My sincere thanks for addressing this important issue.

Johanna Jensen, Fort Bragg / Noyo / Pomo resident

Lemos, June

From: Miller, Tabatha
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FW: Fort Bragg

From: slc [mailto:slc@timesarrow.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:55 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha <TMiller@fortbragg.com>; pfimrite@sfchronicle.com
Subject: Fort Bragg

I suggest that the town rename itself for Edward S. Bragg, a Union general in the Civil War:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_S._Bragg

Sincerely,
Stephen Costa
Oakland, CA

Lemos, June

From: Miller, Tabatha
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FW: Fort Bragg

From: Thomas Boyd [mailto:tboyd@aftercare1.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:29 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha <TMiller@fortbragg.com>
Cc: letters@pressdemocrat.com
Subject: Fort Bragg

Hello Ms. Miller,

Has anyone named Bragg ever lived or currently is living in Fort Bragg?

A possible solution is to select a resident with that name and honor him or her with the “change” in the name to be reflective of that person. A civic public event for the “change” could be held.

I have always enjoyed visiting Fort Bragg over the years and never once connected it with Braxton Bragg who was an poor general hated by his men with good reason.

Best regards, stay safe
Tom

Thomas E. Boyd
teblite@aol.com
707-480-7380
215 Ridgeview Drive
Petaluma CA 94952

Lemos, June

From: Norvell, Bernie
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:30 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Rename Fort Bragg

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

Begin forwarded message:

From: Julia Whitty <julia.whitty@gmail.com>
Date: June 16, 2020 at 8:29:16 AM PDT
To: "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Rename Fort Bragg

Dear Mr Norvell,

I urge you to rename your lovely town something worthy and reject in any way honoring a traitor and a slave owner. It's an inexcusable affront to all descendants of slaves.

Thank you.

Julia Whitty

Lemos, June

From: James Czadek <norcoel@mcn.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

My family lives outside of the City limits, but in the 95437 zip code. We realize that we can't have a vote, but would like the council members to consider our opinion about changing Fort Bragg's name. We support changing the name and like the suggestion of changing it to Noyo.

Signed,

James and Carol Czadek
95437 residents since 1975

Lemos, June

From: Lorna Dennis <lornylee@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change on ballot

City Council members:

My name is Lorna Dennis. I have been a resident of Fort Bragg since August, 1990 and I am asking that a name change for Fort Bragg be placed on the November ballot.

Currently the name reflects a known confederate. Also, currently, we are named for a fort designed to push the Native People into inland reservations. Let's honor the original landowners of our beautiful town.

Thank you for your consideration

Lorna Dennis
301 S Whipple Street

Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Norvell, Bernie
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Changing the Name of Fort Bragg

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

Begin forwarded message:

From: Thais Mazur <thais@mcn.org>
Date: June 16, 2020 at 11:34:11 AM PDT
To: "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: **Changing the Name of Fort Bragg**

Hi Bernie,
I wanted to let you know that I support changing the name of Fort Bragg to Noyo. I hope the City Council will vote to do that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thais

Thais Mazur, PhD
Executive Director

Lemos, June

From: Thais Mazur <thais@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:26 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Changing the Name of Fort Bragg

To all Fort Bragg City Council Members,

I am writing to vote YES on changing the name of Fort Bragg to Noyo.

Many municipalities in the United States have removed monuments and memorials on public property dedicated to the Confederate States of America. The momentum to remove Confederate memorials has been accelerated after each of several high-profile incidents such as the Charleston Church shooting in June 2015, the Unite the Right Rally in Charlottesville Virginia in August 2017, and the recent killing of George Floyd in May 2020.

I have lived on the Mendocino coast for 25 years, and changing the name of Fort Bragg to Noyo, a historical name used by the Pomo Native People, would be a great honor for all who live here. It would also demonstrate our commitment in joining the nation to make an appropriate transition for a more just and civil society.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thais Mazur

Thais Mazur, PhD

Lemos, June

From: Annemarie <aweibel@mcn.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 2:50 PM
To: Lemos, June; Peters, Lindy; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie
Cc: Miller, Tabatha
Subject: Name Change for City of Fort Bragg
Attachments: Renaming Fort Bragg.docx

Dear City Council members,
Please consider my comments at your next meeting.
Thanks, Annemarie Weibel

Dear City Council members,

I urge you to do what is necessary to place "renaming Fort Bragg" on the ballot for the month of November.

I signed the petition "City Council of Fort Bragg: Change the name of our city from Fort Bragg, CA to something less racially toxic."

I do not live in Fort Bragg. Most Mendocino Coast people agree that it is time to rename our city.

I know the city has looked into renaming Fort Bragg before, but this time around there is a lot of momentum for this as symbols of Confederacy fall. It is the belief of many that we should let the local Native American (Pomo) come up with a name that pleases them. The Pomo village in Fort Bragg was called "surrounded by trees." I believe that contacting the chairman of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians in Willits would be a good start.

It seems that with all the support this issue has reached it should be possible to come up with the money to place the issue of "renaming Fort Bragg" on the ballot for the month of November.

Many news sources beyond this area have written about the need to rename the city and the city has been approached by many to follow suit.

Thank you for placing the topic on the agenda.
Sincerely, Annemarie Weibel
6-16-2020

Lemos, June

From: Ona Rynearson <ona_rynearson@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Albin-Smith, Tess; Lemos, June; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; lpeters@fortbragg.com
Subject: Be Advocates of Change

Hello,

I am writing today to urge the city council to seriously consider and be advocates to change the city of Fort Bragg's name. Be champions of change instead of compiling roadblocks as has been done in the past as far as financial concerns, etc. Work to find a long-term solution to address cost concerns to the city residents while having honest conversations about our town's problematic history with the name and how the town originated (.e.g. city name change immediate but small businesses have certain number of years to update or waive business name change fees, etc.).

Too often the city of Fort Bragg has received negative national attention on this matter, clinging to outdated and old-fashioned ideas. We have a chance to be on the right side of history. As a third-generation resident who lived in other cities for parts of my adulthood, I can firsthand share that many potential opportunities for tourists are lost due to the current name. I have met people who made the long drive to visit the town of Mendocino and went out of their way to not spend time or money in Fort Bragg. How unfortunate, because the name neither represents our values or what is found here for those who do visit.

A name change would firmly align us with broader and more diverse communities, assure all they are welcome in our community, and I feel provide much needed positive press. I have worked many years in a professional environment where change was inevitable and part of the job, however, change is hard and never easy. Yet, the only way you can grow and improve, is to be willing to do the work to change. We have the eyes of the world on us. Let's make the right decision.

Sincerely,
Ona A. Rynearson
Resident

Lemos, June

From: Linda Jupiter <jupiter@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Morsell-Haye. Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy
Subject: FB name change

Greetings, June,
Hope you're healthy and doing well.

I just heard Will Lee on KZYYX saying old timers in FB don't want a name change and that it's up to the community to make the name change. I disagree. The community I hear from (my friends, family, groups, the Announce listserv) are thrilled to have a chance to rename Fort Bragg. And every person of color I have heard from feels that the name Fort Bragg is a constant slap in his or her face. If our white City Council thinks we need to maintain the status quo for "old timers," they need to educate themselves on systemic racism and the constant hurt it does to our friends and neighbors.

However, the name change is not about what the community wants, it's about doing the right thing. We're at a tipping point here where for the first time in my life (and I'm 76 years ago), people and governments are talking about changing our system of white supremacy and seem to be willing to start making major changes to a new, kinder society where every person, regardless of color, is treated with respect.

Our City Council, elected by our community, should be the ones to make this decision and not palm it off on "community" as so many of the people affected don't live within our town's limits.

Invite our Pomo neighbors to rename Fort Bragg.

Respectfully,
Linda Jupiter
Fort Bragg

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:13 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Kyle
Last Name	Kulmann
Address1	24100 Howard Creek Rd.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Westport
State	CA
Zip	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Phone Number	4158126558
Email Address	kylekulmann@gmail.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
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Question / Comment	<p>Dear City Council,</p> <p>I was born on Little Lake Road just outside of town and Fort Bragg has always been close to my heart. I can assure you it was never a matter of what it said on any sign. This town shines for its people and its surroundings.</p> <p>I am writing to encourage you to embrace progress and justice - and to move forward with changing the city's name. This is a matter of decency and anti-racism. Let's also not forget that, particularly in a town that thrives on tourist dollars, no press is bad press. This can be an exciting moment. Please be bold and focus on this opportunity for leadership to come from a small town, and to simply be on the right side of history. I look forward to an ongoing debate regarding what new name might</p>
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be implemented - but the council should absolutely say yes to this first step: a commitment to the change.

Many thanks,
Kyle Kulmann

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:02 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Tim
Last Name	Goncharoff
Address1	222 Columbia St #209
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	SANTA CRUZ
State	CA
Zip	95060
Phone Number	8312950939
Email Address	timgonch@yahoo.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
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Question / Comment	<p>I have longstanding connections to your fair city. I have visited family there many times, as well as in the nearby towns of Mendocino and Little River. And as a student of history, every single time I have pondered the strangeness of naming such a fine town after a man who not only had never been there, but who committed treason against his country for the cause of keeping black people as property. I know to some it seems simply tradition, grown comfortable after long use. But to many it will always be offensive and painful. Many things have been justified in the name of tradition, but this is not one I believe should stand. The controversy will not pass, and it will be a festering sore until you let the healing begin. Please don't wait for the inevitable boycotts and demonstrations. Do the right thing now. The time has come. Thank you.</p>
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Lemos, June

From: Peter & Mary Gealey <pmgealey@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 12:07 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

Greetings Fort Bragg City Council...

I have lived in this area for the last 43 years and, with my wife Mary & brother Dave, opened the Headlands Coffeehouse in 1995. I support wholeheartedly renaming the town (I think Noyo Harbor would be a good name... already comfortable in the ears of us locals, a celebration of our seaside location, a nod to the people who inhabited the area before us and an alluring sounding tourist destination). Seeing as I will not be able to vote on the matter, as a Simpson Lane resident, this letter is my vote. I urge you to put this idea the ballot and delay any decisions until all ramifications can be studied & debated, including possible bad publicity and loss of tourism for our town if we continue, by using his name, to honor a Confederate general of ill repute. We *must* to the right thing morally.

Thank you for your time and the hard work you are doing in these challenging times

Peter Gealey

Lemos, June

From: Adrienne Ross <adross@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:59 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: change FB's name

I suggest **North Point**.

I think it's shameful that our fine town is named after a slavery-defending person.

The more corrupt the state, the more numerous the laws. ---*Tacitus*

Lemos, June

From: Michael Houghton <m@designwithcourage.co>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Norvell, Bernie; Lemos, June; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Lee, Will; lpeters@fortbragg.com
Subject: Change the name

Dear council,

I am not a resident, but Fort Bragg has been one of my favorite destinations as a weekend getaway.

We all learn and grow, and obviously none of us are directly responsible for the mistakes and horrors of the past. We are, however, responsible to help choose what historic figures we continue to give reverence, because that is part of what builds the ethics and values of the future. There's no shame in growing and evolving, letting go of choices made in older times. Doing so isn't "flip flopping" — it's growing and maturing as a people.

I'd love to see Fort Bragg be part of that maturity.

Keep the history, but lose the perpetuation.

M

--

Michael Houghton

co-owner Courage Co. Design & Illustration

web: www.designwithcourage.co | email: m@designwithcourage.co | cell: (707) 331-8238

IRL: 1365 Kowell Rd, Unit B, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Lemos, June

From: Holly Tannen <htannen@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:43 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Everyone hated Braxton Bragg

Dear June:

Thank you for considering the idea of changing the name of Fort Bragg.

It's not just that Braxton Bragg was a Confederate general. Contemporary accounts describe him as arrogant, cantankerous, incompetent (he lost battles he'd almost won by refusing to leave his supply base), and hated by officers and enlisted men alike. His own soldiers twice tried to have him assassinated.

In his memoirs, General Ulysses S. Grant tells a story about Bragg. As company commander at a frontier post where he also served as quartermaster, he submitted a requisition for supplies, then as quartermaster declined to fill it. The post commandant exclaimed, "My God, Mr. Bragg, you have quarreled with every officer in the army, and now you are quarreling with yourself!"

BRAXTON BRAGG
Tune: Cotton-Eyed Joe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6XM2jaKKzI>

Sometimes, folks, the truth is a drag
Our town's named for Braxton Bragg
 Braxton Bragg, Braxton Bragg
 Rebel General Braxton Bragg.

He fought for the Confederate flag
Lost every battle, Braxton Bragg
 Braxton Bragg, Braxton Bragg
 Arrogant, angry Braxton Bragg.

He and his wife had a hundred slaves
Worked them into early graves
 Braxton Bragg, Braxton Bragg
 Black Lives Matter was not his bag.

Don't know about you, but it makes me gag
Our town's named for Braxton Bragg
 Braxton Bragg, Braxton Bragg
 Everyone hated Braxton Bragg.

Lemos, June

From: cindy plank <cindyplank@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City name change

Hi June, please share my thoughts with City Council about the topic of Fort Bragg name change.

I am in favor of a name change. Even though my house is not within the city limits, My address is Fort Bragg.

Changing the name wouldn't be an attempt to change history as some indicate. The name Fort Bragg is associated with a violent time & the taking over of lands from people already living here, and that will forever be history.

I am in favor of changing the name of our community to reflect what we honor & revere, instead of keeping the name a soldier assigned to a temporary and unneeded fort. After the military left the area from their short stay, there was no need of a fort at all, so the name should also not have remained.

There are a variety of names that would reflect what our community values. Some names could even be associated with, and result in, economic opportunities & improvements, thus creating the potential for a more vibrant community.

But regardless of economic result, the most important reason to change our name is to make a firm & courageous commitment to the values our community holds.

It makes sense. And right now is the time.

Thank you,
Cindy Plank
16651 Pearl Ranch Road
357-4282

Lemos, June

From: Miller, Tabatha
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:39 AM
To: 'Clare Bercot Zwerling'
Cc: Phil Zwerling; Lemos, June
Subject: RE: Name change of Fort Bragg

Ms. Zwerling,

Thank you for your input on this issue. I have carbon copied the City Clerk, June Lemos, who will ensure that your views are included in public comments and provided to the City Council well before the meeting.

Take care,

Tabatha Miller
City Manager
City of Fort Bragg
(707) 961-2829
TMiller@FortBragg.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Clare Bercot Zwerling [mailto:clarebercot@icloud.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:06 PM
To: Miller, Tabatha <TMiller@fortbragg.com>
Cc: Phil Zwerling <pzwerling@icloud.com>
Subject: Name change of Fort Bragg

Ms. Miller:

I am unable to determine how to submit commentary regarding the subject of the name change for the city so that the commission can take note of my view. I found your email address online so I am sending my comments to you in hopes you will forward them to the appropriate contact in a timely manner.

My husband and I retired to Fort Bragg two years ago, leaving our long time home in South Texas. A sticking point for our decision to move here for both my husband and I was the name of the city. We found it unpleasant, given its military connotation. Never did we realize that the name Bragg has a much darker history. I strongly support a ballot initiative regarding the change of name and hope our fellow citizens take a similar view.

I have heard some townspeople say that the name should remain the same due to "tradition", or due to the fact that many people used to own slaves and its no big deal. (A disgusting comment that defies conscience). I find these arguments appalling. I think an enlightened society does its very best to make choices that reflect an ever evolving moral and ethical awareness of right and wrong. What was "okay" in the past in many cases nowadays is not okay and should not be tolerated or upheld in public memorial out of "tradition". I find racism in the very discussion itself - if Bragg had been a pedophile, which in times past did not have quite the nasty ring to it that it does nowadays, would we be arguing in favor of retaining the name out of "tradition" or because pedophilia was more common in the past so what's the big deal? I could go on and on about this but I think I've made my point.

I am horrified to say and know that I possibly live in a city that could support retaining a name that is so obviously tarnished and without rehabilitation. What kind of people support such choices?

Thank you for your assistance in helping me express my views.

Very truly yours,

Clare Bercot Zwerling

Lemos, June

From: feather@mcn.org
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

Dear Ms Lemos,

I would like to add my voice to those in favor of changing Fort Bragg's name. I like Noyo. It's what this area was called before the whites arrived here and wiped out the native cultures that were well-established before their arrival and herded like cattle to Round Valley.

I think the less negative connotations surrounding the name of the town, the better. It would be better for tourism, better for the economy, etc.

I have lived on the Mendocino coast since 1986, spending time in: Noyo Harbor, Elk, N McPherson Street, Woodward Street, Caspar, Main Street, N Harrison Street, Albion, N Franklin Street and S McPherson Streets before buying a house north of town. The property deed says "Noyo, California" and not Fort Bragg, even though we are considered a part of Fort Bragg or extreme southern Cleone.

I would hope that logic would prevail. Change is good and bringing the old name back would be the best way to honor the peoples whose lives were ruined when they were forced to live on the reservation, then marched up to Covelo.

Sincerely,

Lisa D Walker

Lemos, June

From: Norvell, Bernie
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 8:26 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Renaming Fort Bragg

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elias Reitz <eliasreitz@hotmail.com>
Date: June 18, 2020 at 8:08:50 AM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>, "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>, "Albin-Smith, Tess" <Talbinsmith@fortbragg.com>, "Jmorselhay@fortbragg.com" <Jmorselhay@fortbragg.com>, "Peters, Lindy" <LPeters2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Renaming Fort Bragg

Thank you so much for your public service and taking the time to consider the possibility of changing the name of Fort Bragg. By now I'm sure this letter is not totally original, but I wanted to chime in and add some encouragement towards this exciting opportunity before us.

I got so excited when I read the npr story about Fort Bragg, NC looking into the same possibility, and realized that this could be an opportunity for our little coastal city to join the national conversation and to make amends with some of its past simultaneously. As you know, I'm sure, General Braxton Bragg, after whom Fort Bragg is named, was a Confederate General who lived on a Louisiana sugar plantation on which enslaved people were held. He benefited personally from the institution of slavery and served as a leader in an army that aimed to perpetuate the enslavement of African Americans.

Fort Bragg has a pretty difficult to face past. It begins with the Mendocino Reservation and the forced relocation of native populations from throughout California to this site. There are literally books and books depicting graphic violence that did not spare women, children or the elderly. Then later the timber industry is booming, and all of the old growth forest is removed until there is no more left and the industry ceases to be profitable because no one thought to look ahead and manage this precious resource. The exact same story exists for fishing; a once very abundant salmon population; greatly profited from for a short period of time. Again, mismanagement, over-fishing, lack of consideration for this resource to exist for future generations.

After the crash of these economies, Fort Bragg now is one of a string of towns that rely heavily (if not solely) on tourism to support the local families. Of the string of towns, Mendocino village, Casper, Little River; have become more the attraction while Fort Bragg is included, but well known to be more down on its luck and economically depressed with problems of homelessness, drug addiction and alcoholism. Maybe the name alone has contributed to this. A military base name doesn't exactly sound like a fun place to visit. These are

tough realities, but visibly true. The townspeople have worked hard to change the tide of things. One example is the opening of the coast trail; reclaiming precious land from the long defunct, toxic waste leaving lumber company. Another is the townspeople fight to restrict Grocery Outlet from building on the west side of Hwy 1; again, preserving some of the most beautiful coastline in the world to be enjoyed by the citizens.

I see renaming as a rare opportunity for this little coastal city. Yes, there will be push back from some, and yes there will be expenses and logistical challenges. Other cities have changed their names and maybe some counsel could be available. But I say just put it on the ballot and let the citizens decide. I feel like the world is asking this city to wake up a little and seize this moment. Let's let the tide change. When bays and estuaries don't flush and renew with the tides, sickness sets in. Or shall we just stay sleepy for another 150 years?!

Thanks so much for reading this and giving it careful consideration. I hope to come out on Monday to at least be present with other townspeople to further this discussion.

best,
Elias Reitz

Lemos, June

From: Norvell, Bernie
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 9:02 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Name Change

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

Begin forwarded message:

From: l lucco <openedge@mcn.org>
Date: June 18, 2020 at 8:59:09 AM PDT
To: "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Name Change

Vice Mayor Norvell,

Fort Bragg has been our town for thirty years and we truly love living here.

Certainly we want what's best for Fort Bragg regarding the possible name change and in this light there is only one possible choice for residents and businesses alike.

We have got to join the world in denouncing racism, from statues to unequal rights to getting rid of the name of our beautiful city. Fort Bragg is not a racist city and the world should know this about us. Now, with the publicity of bigoted associations with our town's name, anything short of changing our name would be extremely negative for our future.

All our wonderful memories and experiences of living in Fort Bragg will not be erased if we change our name. This is a great place to live and work and we should be proud of our city and our relationship with the rest of the world. We are friendly, decent and fair-minded people but now we are misrepresented by our own name. Due to recent events we can no longer hope to hide the racist associations with our City's name.

So, it is with absolute certainty that we say going forward with the name of Fort Bragg is terrible for both residents and businesses. If you are a black person "Fort Bragg" is a direct affront. If you are anyone else who believes in equal rights for all people, the name Fort Bragg has become a misrepresentation and an embarrassment.

Finally, we can turn the changing of our name into a wonderful opportunity for the future of "NOYO" or "NOYO HARBOUR," with all the good publicity of a city standing up and doing the right thing.

Please stand with us and vote to change our name and our future for the better.

Sincerely,

Nick and Leslie Lucco

Lemos, June

From: Jary Stavely <jstavely@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:48 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

I live at 205 N. Harold St. in Fort Bragg. I own my house there, and I support changing the the name of the city. I would favor Noyo or Uniontown for a new name. the first choice, if supported by its descendants, would recognize some of the original inhabitants of the area. The second choice would recognize the town's historical association with logging and the Union Lumber Co.

Jary Stavely

Lemos, June

From: Jeannette Rasker <jrasker1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 10:56 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Regarding: Name Change Fort Bragg

Dear City Council members,

Even though I do not live in Ft Bragg, I am a neighbor and spend a significant amount of time in Ft Bragg. I am dependent on Ft Bragg's services: the Hospital, doctors, restaurants, shops and other venues.

I also am supportive of many organizations located in Ft Bragg.

FT Bragg is the HUB of our Mendocino Coast and of essential importance to ALL of us who live here.

Therefore, here are my two cents!

I think this IS the time to find a new name for Ft Bragg, a name most of us can feel good about, a name that is connected to it's identity and growing significance as a beautiful Coastal town.

To have a name associated with SLAVERY and INEQUALITY is never a good thing.

In fact, some people might think twice about spending time and money in Ft Bragg, lodging here, as the town will stand out as CHOOSING against all better judgment, to just leave "it" alone!

And, what we would leave alone is a part of our national history, that we have to, with great humility, look in the eye.

And no better time to do this than NOW!

We have a Coastal community, centering in and around Ft Bragg, whose people want and need to be aware and appreciative of all the people who live here, regardless of their heritage, their country of origin, and the color of their skin, for starters!

We are EQUALS, all of us!

And the name of our own central town on the North Mendocino Coast should not contradict this.

At this moment we are at a crossroads, a tipping point, a moment when our consciousness can be and needs to be raised in regards to Justice and Equality for All.

To put a proposed name on the ballot will take work. Paying for a name change, will have to be done over a reasonable period of time. The process will take some years. Financial aid for some businesses might have to be part of the planning.

But NOW is the time to act and make the name change a reality!

We can do better and we, as a community, certainly can do a good thing right now, and make a gracious gesture with symbolic value, that will put the City in a fresh and positive light.

Sincerely,
Jeannette Rasker,
Albion,
California.

Lemos, June

From: ajregister@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 9:59 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Peters, Lindy
Subject: Name Change Ballot Issue
Attachments: Facebook discussion re Fort Bragg name change.all 200616.edits.pdf

Dear City Council:

I think it's a bad thing to maintain the relics and totems of racism, systemic or otherwise.

Whether or not the city was named before or after the Civil War, due consideration should be made regarding the impression/impact the city's name makes upon others, particularly the black community.

The city's name may not be a Confederate flag, but it could be identified/associated with such symbols.

I do not think the issue of convenience is relevant as doing the right thing rather than the easy thing is generally always inconvenient. In fact, when it's more important to do the right thing rather than the easy thing, it's always inconvenient.

While a ballot issue would allow the people of Fort Bragg to decide what to do, retention of the "Fort Bragg" name should be under circumstances where that name is not sullied/besmirched/soiled by the cruel, greedy, and vain legacy of slavery, prejudice, and murder.

As our city continues to rely more heavily on tourism, superficial things like the city's own name may play a part in the decisions people make to come here or stay away. Many may not care.

I believe the city's name was chosen to link it historically to an individual of the American military so that it could carry whatever baggage that name could claim to the might and honor of it. Circumstances may have changed where that baggage is not worth carrying anymore. Events may have overtaken the city's name. With this, it may not be the adoption of the name that's the problem, it's the intentional maintenance of it post-Civil War with full knowledge of Braxton Bragg's history. The connotation associated with the name may have evolved underneath the name and overtaken it.

I believe there are many in the city who derive a sense of identity from the city of Fort Bragg, its history, and the personal history those people have and associate with the city. For these people, loss of the city's name is felt as if they have lost part of their own identity and as if an actual physical injury has occurred or will occur to them.

A rose by any other name would smell just as sweet and the geographic region currently designated as the city of Fort Bragg will not change in any way. Not a grain of sand will be lost. The change may be abrupt and inconvenient/difficult. However, the good things about the history of the city of Fort Bragg will never be lost. The bad things may be best relegated to the ash heap of history.

Please find attached a Facebook thread transcript on this issue where I advocate consideration of the change in light of definite criticism.

Thank you very much for all the attention the city council brings to bear on this matter. I know/believe there's a tsunami of opinion information regarding this issue. Thank you.

Best Regards,


Andrew Jordan
Fort Bragg, CA

Andrew Jordan I think it's a bad thing to maintain the relics and totems of racism, systematic or otherwise.

4

- 2d



Judy Valadao  Another thing that makes Fort Bragg the wonderful place it is, everyone has a right to their opinion and I appreciate that.

4

- 2d
- Edited




Andrew Jordan **Judy Valadao** You are so tactful, Judy. How kind of you.



1

- 2d
- Edited



Sarita Colberg  I'm not tactful at all; that's a load of crap, our name has nothing to do with racism and we are not a racist town.

10

- 2d



Sharon Lee **Andrew Jordan** how would you feel if someone said "I think it's a bad thing to allow "white" people to say anything about race? They have no right, because they cannot relate." Relics are items from our past. Good and bad. Do you actually think getting rid of these things is going to completely change peoples hearts? That's where the perception lays you know. It's a HEART problem. If we would acknowledge the FACT that we all come from "one blood" it would go a long way to solving this whole "race" problem that everyone thinks we're having. Do you not realize this whole "racist" agenda has been whipped into a frenzy by those who just plain "hate?"

4

o 2d




Andrew Jordan [Sarita Colberg](#) I see. And who granted you infinite insight?

2

o 2d



Sarita Colberg  [Andrew Jordan](#) it's simple, are any of the people who were involved alive? Do you know anyone who thinks the way they did over 150 years ago? Is there any reason to think there is a problem if someone hasn't told you there is a problem? It's called rational thinking.

5

o 2d



Andrew Jordan [Sharon Lee](#) Individuals are not state actors, they don't act for the state unless they hold office. I'm all for the free marketplace of ideas, but renaming Fort Bragg to Hitlerville, for example, is problematic. My feelings are not the point. The point is that relics and totems of systemic, passing, and/or historical racism are not a good thing.

You are welcome to your opinion to the extent that I am welcome to mine. I like [Judy Valadao](#)'s approach. She's much more tactful, diplomatic, and reasonable.

Are you admitting that the name Fort Bragg is a relic/totem of historical racism? It sounds like that to me.

1

o 2d

o Edited



Andrew Jordan [Sarita Colberg](#) Really. And the statues erected of Confederate heroes were not installed to intimidate the black population? What's rational to you appears to be making excuses to me.

1

o 2d



Alyce Cameron Pacheco 🖐️ Email Address's:

Vice Mayor Bernie Norvell: Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com...[See More](#)

Alyce Cameron Pacheco 🖐️ Email Address's:

Vice Mayor Bernie Norvell: Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com

Mayor: wiee@fortbragg.com

Council person: talbinsmith@fortbragg.com

Council person: Jmorsellhay@fortbragg.com

Council person: LPeters2@fortbragg.com

4

o 2d



Sarita Colberg 🛡️ [Andrew Jordan](#) didn't know we were talking about statues.

1

o 2d



Andrew Jordan [Sarita Colberg](#) And what part of "relics and totems" did you miss?

o 2d



Judy Valadao 🛡️ Serious question here. Are there any City erected Confederate statues, totems or anything else in Fort Bragg? I'm asking because I'm not aware of any and if there is, I would like to know.

3

o 2d



Nancy Ferreira **Andrew Jordan** we have a plaque on a rock.. easily removed..and no one is talking about the cost of replacing everyone's birth certificate for the last hundred years...Or dealing with the Federal,state government,,,not to mention your pg&e..telephone...all that info has to be changed for every person..just replacing the official documents to our city will be astronomical..we just came out of a shutdown..businesses are closing..people are in dire straights and the city may not have enough income to pay our understaffed police.. lousy timing

5

o 2d




Sarita Colberg  **Andrew Jordan** that's not relevant to our town name.

3

o 1d



Sarita Colberg  **Nancy Ferreira** I don't feel like we should have to talk about that. It has been verified that no one has made an official complaint and we have nothing to defend. If someone wants to attempt to make such a serious change the burden should fall on them.

2

o 1d



Andrew Jordan **Nancy Ferreira** I'm not so sure about that, but yes, there are challenges and inconveniences. However, that is almost always true in doing the right thing rather than the easy thing. The benefits are long term, not short term.

I'm still sticking with my original comment.

1

o 1d



Andrew Jordan **Sarita Colberg** I do not agree.

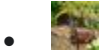
o 1d



Nancy Ferreira **Andrew Jordan** ok,I guess you are volunteering to pay for it all. Shouldn't cost more than a million..inconvenience is having a flat tire.. our town is a great place to live and visit..if people don't want to come based on the name of a long dead person..who wasn't in the confederacy until ten years later..so be it

2

- 1d
- Edited



Bob Kinney **Andrew Jordan** Dont forget to fund all the towns and Cities named after past Presidents and Constitution signers... lots of slave holders there...need to change a Lot of names!

3

- 1d



Andrew Jordan **Bob Kinney** Well, sure, if you want to make the perfect the enemy of the good.

- 1d



Maria Gemionite McMillan **Andrew Jordan** Was not the fort established before the Civil War? We learn from history that the world did not begin the day we were born. In my opinion, those who wish to erase history have some form of disorder such as narcissism.

5

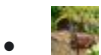
- 1d



Tammy Lowe **Judy Valadao** I have never seen one.

1

- 1d



Bob Kinney **Andrew Jordan**

2

o 1d



Rochelle Rocky Berry [Andrew Jordan](#) What would YOU have Fort Bragg named, then?

1

o 7h



- o **Andrew Jordan** [Rochelle Rocky Berry](#) I think that's both a good and fair question, but it's also premature. There are really two questions regarding the name of our fair city, Fort Bragg.

First, was the name adopted to memorialize a Civil War hero. I don't think so.


Second, have events overtaken then name so that (like the Confederate flag) the name now symbolizes institutional racism and serves to remind those of African-American descent that they need to watch their step and be mindful of the white majority and its power to do them harm at its discretion. Maybe.

I note that some people have posted laughing emoticons to my original message. I think a fair conclusion arising from those posts are that [Rick Jeffery](#), [Alex Gibney](#), and Julie McHenry do want to maintain relics and totems of racism. That's sad, but if it is a true reflection of the sentiments in Fort Bragg, all the more reason to change its name.

o 5h



Active Now

Judy Valadao  Fort Bragg is not a racist town and our law enforcement doesn't beat those being arrested. Although there have been times when they have been punched and kicked by the person they were arresting. I have a feeling the majority of people who want to rename Fort Bragg can trace their roots back to ancestors who had slaves of some nationality. Be very careful what you wish for it could come back and bite you square on the ass. I'll be looking around town for a symbol, totem or relic that symbolizes racism and if I find one I will ask that it be removed. On the other hand how many have their panties in a wad because the working man/woman symbolizes the birth and growth of this City? Privileged, because we homes? Or do we have homes because we worked for them? This City did not build itself, it was built by those who lived and worked here. By those who raised their children here. The City wasn't built on handouts. It was built because of the opportunities offered to all and it was built in a beautiful area to call home. Over all these years not one person has said "I'm not going there or I'm not going to live there because it's named Fort Bragg." Until now, because someone wants someone else to believe we are racists? Really? Fort Bragg has people of all races. People here don't get angry at others

because of their race. They may get angry because someone is being a jerk (and that includes all races.) So, you want a name change? Go for it. I have faith in those who helped build this City into the place it is today to finally stand up and speak out.

4

o 4h



Rochelle Rocky Berry Andrew Jordan I couldn't disagree more.

2

o 4h



Andrew Jordan Rochelle Rocky Berry Why? How do you see it?

o 4h



Rochelle Rocky Berry Andrew Jordan I'd be wasting my time hoping to reach you with the reality of the situation beyond saying eradicating "relics and totems" of "Racism" (a perception) is not only delusional but destructive. We, as a Country, however divided - and mark mywords, your support of this insanity is assisting in the plot to further fan the flames of dissent - are perfectly equipped on MOST days to relegate the past to the past, understanding that without any sign of the history of the growth and change of a budding nation, successes, mistakes and everything in between - we will wander, lost, into the future.

3

o 4h



Andrew Jordan Rochelle Rocky Berry OK, but instead of informing me as to how you reached your conclusion, you just ramble on about how you feel. I think your rejection of my invitation is from laziness and convenience rather than there being any waste of time.

2

o 4h



Rochelle Rocky Berry We must retain those mileposts and benchmarks as guideposts along the way. History is - at once - fascinating but appalling. Encouraging and sad. Brilliant and not so much. EVERY JOT AND TITTLE compose crucial reference points. Would you have us re-write the past? What would you like it to look like?

3

○ 4h



Rochelle Rocky Berry Andrew Jordan are you six?

○ 4h



Andrew Jordan Rochelle Rocky Berry I think it's a bad premise that you have to maintain oppression and prejudice. I think it's the same argument used regarding the Confederate flag. It's social/cultural/political camouflage for the real issue of institutional oppression and the reminders of them to the ones its directed to.

I don't worry about what things look like. I worry about doing the right thing.

2

○ 4h



Rochelle Rocky Berry Andrew Jordan Doing the right thing? Target demographic?

1

○ 4h



Rochelle Rocky Berry Do you have any concern or consideration for the locals vehemently opposed to further eradication of a history most of them were born into and embrace - some of the most enlightened, kind-hearted, empathetic, socially responsible and moral folks you could ever hope to meet? Yet, you slop your disdain and imperious twaddle around like you're feeding pigeons. Surely, you understand the "benefactors" of your enlightened assault on local history aren't likely to be found living amongst the folks who shudder at the thought of yet another vestige of their heritage gone the way of the phone booth? I'm not so sure "YOUR" right thing and THE "right thing" are the same animals.

1

- o 4h
- o Edited



Rochelle Rocky Berry Pander-demic. That's what we're dealing with, here.

1

- o 3h



Andrew Jordan Rochelle Rocky Berry I notice that your attacks on me do not address the issues regarding the name of the city. Is it because you have no good arguments? Does "vehement opposition" make people right? Or, does it just give them the security of a mob that can impose it unilateral will on those they oppose. If these people are so moral, why are they so afraid of addressing a currently, and persistently, relevant issue?

I invited you to discuss why you feel the way you do and why you think the way you do, but you considered that a waste of time.

Apparently, you consider attacking me a good use of your time. I think that indicates a lot about your character and disposition. You don't care what's right, you just don't want to be inconvenienced by looking at the impact of institutional placements.

So, let's just consider something for purposes of discussion. Let's say this town was named after Robert E. Lee or Jefferson Davis. Let's also say that the name was adopted in 1890 to intimidate a population of freed slaves that had been emancipated by Lincoln. But, the adoption was camouflaged by citing "history" and "heritage". Would you feel/think the same way?

- o 3h




Rochelle Rocky Berry I'd love to stay and chat, but I've got chores, and the animals waiting on me are far more polite than I'm finding you. Enjoy your evening...and - Andrew - a word? Stop poking the bears. You've decided I'm the antagonist here and you will not be persuaded otherwise by ANY effort on my part to quell your unease or upset your conclusion. lol. Toodles. Be well.

1

- o 3h



Sarita Colberg  **Andrew Jordan** I think what she is saying is that something doesn't become true, relevant or right because you decide it is.

2

o 2h



Andrew Jordan **Rochelle Rocky Berry** I notice that you didn't answer my question, but had plenty of time to attack me. Attacking the messenger does not change the issue.

o 2h



Andrew Jordan **Sarita Colberg** I don't recall anyone saying otherwise. I find it interesting that there's a lot of talk about how non-racist, open, enlightened, and accepting of free speech and others people are in this area. I think this thread shows just how true that is. People apparently have open minds so long as they agree with what's being said. That's known as confirmation bias.

1

o 2h

o Edited



Rochelle Rocky Berry **Andrew Jordan** Oh, for Pete's sake...grow up.

1

o 2h



Andrew Jordan **Rochelle Rocky Berry** Go tend to your animals, Rochelle. Reasoned argument and discussion seem to escape you.

o 2h




Andrew Jordan Rochelle has apparently deleted all her posts. This is a serious discussion and feeling right (or entitled) to something does not make you right. There's nothing wrong in disagreeing with people or for standing up for yourself. It's how you treat others who do that which counts.

Reasoned discussion, argument, and conversation is as American as the New England town hall. All the assertions of tolerance and acceptance are given their true character by how people behave. Actions speak louder than words.

And now the posts are back again. Thanks, [Rochelle Rocky Berry](#) .

- 2h
- Edited



Sarita Colberg  [Andrew Jordan](#) I'm tired of free speech today; that is an aside to the rest. I bet you think we are all a bunch of dumb, white redneck women; you'd be right about redneck and women, but dumb we are not and perhaps you'd be surprised who has American Indian blood yet doesn't feel the need to say it to validate their right to an opinion.

2

- 2h



Rochelle Rocky Berry [Andrew Jordan](#)



- 1h



Andrew Jordan Sarita Colberg No, Sarita. You take it too far and on only one issue. Actions do speak louder than words, but I also see a lot of virtue and merit in most people around here.

I think it's a mistake take insult from disagreement. Reasonable minds can differ and by presenting my...[See More](#)

Andrew Jordan Sarita Colberg No, Sarita. You take it too far and on only one issue. Actions do speak louder than words, but I also see a lot of virtue and merit in most people around here.

I think it's a mistake take insult from disagreement. Reasonable minds can differ and by presenting my point of view, I was hoping to see yours. So far, and correct me if I'm wrong, I only see the arguments that: we don't want to change (it's a hassle, we're used to, we're enamored with the name because we've had it for so long, we'd miss it if it were gone, etc), the city was not named for a bad person historically, and there's expense involved. I also think there are issues of identity where people feel physically threatened by the change (the brain can just work like that).

I think a good hard look needs to be made at the history and impact of the name. And, Gavin Newsom just weighed in:

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/.../Vote-on-renaming...>

Edit or delete this



SFCHRONICLE.COM

Vote on renaming California's Fort Bragg 'is the right move,' Gov....

[Vote on renaming California's Fort Bragg 'is the right move,' Gov. Gavin Newsom says](#)

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- [Remove Preview](#)
- [1d](#)




Vote on renaming California's Fort Bragg 'is the right move,' Gov...

Vote on renaming California's Fort Bragg 'is the right move,' Gov. Gavin Newsom says

o Remove Preview

o 1h



Sarita Colberg  Gavin Newsom can shove it. I don't care if you don't think our opinion or reasons are valid; likewise.

1

o 58m



Andrew Jordan **Sarita Colberg** Then what do you want?

o 55m



Sarita Colberg  What do I want?

1

o 55m




Andrew Jordan **Sarita Colberg** Yes. What do you want?

Do you just want to have your own way regardless of how it affects others? Regardless of whether it's right or wrong?

o 26m



Sarita Colberg  I want history preserved. I want all it's good and bad there for future generations.

o 24m



Andrew Jordan Sarita Colberg Is there only one way to do that?

○ 23m



Sarita Colberg

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10222515253292861&set=gm.1625766444259287&type=3>

○ 22m



Sarita Colberg



1

○ 22m



Sharon Lee **Andrew Jordan** people like you equate everything with "racism!" If you disagree with someone or don't have an answer to their question, then you call them "racist.". You and your kind, are the REAL "racists" as you continue to keep stirring people up into the hysterics of discontent! Why not just blow up the whole planet, and start over. Would that make you happy??? Probably not!!!

1

○ 21m



Andrew Jordan **Sharon Lee** I have called no one racist, so that's not true. I've made my point and I am open to further discussion. If anyone wants to PM me, we can go have coffee

if you like. Maybe next week. You all can have the last word as I think words should be weighed, not counted. Thanks very much for entertaining my thoughts. It's sad that anger and name-calling are the refuge some seek and obtain. The ones who want to destroy the things they don't understand.

The rule of law and the principles of equity are beautiful things. A level playing field for all and transparency in government decisions are also good and necessary things. The name of this city should in no way be an instrument of oppression, threat, or put a cloud over the community regarding a part of it. It just should not be a big deal to be a good neighbor. Refusal to budge on what may be a very minor point may indicate more deeply-seated problems.

Lemos, June

From: Judy Stavelly <judyst@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:49 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

Comment about name change:

“I urge the City Council to change the name of Fort Bragg to something else. Fort Bragg no longer has a "fort", and that in itself has long been a subject of confusion to visitors in our community. If cities in southern U.S. states can take down confederate monuments and the U.S. Army can consider changing the names of army bases in order **not** to honor Confederate traitors, our city should have the decency to change its name too. This is a time of reckoning and endeavoring to deconstruct institutional racism. I prefer the name “Noyo” which should be an easy switch since our harbor already has that name and it has historical significance in our community. Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,
Judy Stavelly
47 year resident
Comptche Ukiah Rd.

Lemos, June

From: Peter & Mary Gealey <pmgealey@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Changing the name of our town...

Dear City Council Members,

As a forty-three year resident of Fort Bragg, and a former downtown business owner, I would like to join the chorus of local citizens requesting a ballot initiative to change the name of our town.

To retain this name, which glorifies an ignoble general of the confederacy— particularly at this pivotal moment of social outrage over ongoing systemic racism in our nation— is to turn a deaf ear not only to a national, but a global, outcry for racial justice and social reform.

And, aside from my personal feelings that the time for change has arrived, I also think our city should consider the potential economic ramifications of a stubborn allegiance to a confederate name. Fort Bragg, California is not an island— especially not anymore. Tourism is our #1 industry, and whether folks like it or not, tourist dollars are what keep our economy afloat now. And those tourists come not just from around our state, but from the nation and the world. Therefore, I believe we should— at the very least— put forth a ballot initiative this November.

Thanks to all of you for your hard work and dedication to our town. I realize this is a trying time amidst the fiscal hardships of a global pandemic to foist a potentially costly and time-consuming request for a ballot initiative upon you, but I believe this is an historic moment we cannot— and should not— ignore.

Thanks for your time and consideration on this matter, Mary Gealey

Lemos, June

From: Steven antler <santler@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Comment of changing name of Fort Bragg

To the Fort Bragg City Council,

I strongly support changing the name of Fort Bragg. It's just not right to memorialize a general who fought against the government in the cause of continuing slavery. Also the name honors the time and people who destroyed the native people of the coast. **It's just plain wrong to keep this name.**

I believe it would help our local economy because of the positive publicity we would receive by changing the name. It has already been noted in the state and national press that we are considering changing the name and following through will gain us a great deal of positive attention. This attention can be used to assist in bringing needed resources to our community.

Refusing to take this corrective action will send the completely wrong message locally and beyond. I suspect it will hurt us, whereas doing what is ethically and morally correct will be a benefit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven Antler
Attorney-at-law
PO Box 41
Mendocino CA 95460
707-357-4183

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 9:54 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Patrick
Last Name	Cape
Address1	4041 agassi dr
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Santa rosa
State	Ca
Zip	95407
Phone Number	7078888603
Email Address	74andredream@gmsil.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	<p>Two suggestions to the honorable city council members...1. Even if the name changes for the city... the proud history will last forever... How about naming it Noyo... or we could ask the indigenous people on the reservation if they have any ideas. 2. My grandpa Paul McNabb was born in fort Bragg... a WWII war hero... they wrote his story in a book my mom has... after the war he worked at the mill and botanical gardens... a true hometown hero... anyway he walked every inch of this town... born down down at the noyo River... he was a walker... I was hoping to name a trail after Paul a true American fort Bragg hero.. please contact me or his daughter pauline at 707-756-3939 or 707-308-8385 or 707-888-8603</p>

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 12:47 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Mariah
Last Name	Kolbe
Address1	9717 Great Egret Ct.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	<i>Field not completed.</i>
State	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Zip	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Phone Number	9168792420
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	<p>Hello all. I would like to encourage you to vote yes to putting a name change on the ballot. I am also writing to request any name change be in collaboration with and under approval of the Pomo community who are the original inhabitants of the Fort Bragg land. It is the only appropriate way to move forward.</p> <p>Thank you for your time!</p>

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: Ron Hock <ron@hocktools.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:02 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change

Hi,

Though I am not a resident of the city, I am in "postal" Fort Bragg and have been for almost 40 years. I would love to see Fort Bragg renamed Noyo. I passionately believe such a change is on the right side of history. Honoring a man who took up arms against his own country is an act of treason in itself. If we do not act, and the US Army changes the name of their military base, our little town will be a national embarrassment.

The publicity from such a change would make Noyo, California well known around the world. And I'm sure a national GoFundMe campaign would generate a lot more revenue than the city's estimated cost of the name change. Perhaps enough to help local businesses with some of their related expenses as so many people around the world are seeking ways to do what they can to end system racism.

Thank you,
Ron Hock

--

Ron Hock
www.hocktools.com
16650 Mitchell Creek Drive
Fort Bragg, California 95437 USA
011+1+ 707-964-2782

Lemos, June

From: dcowboy@mcn.org
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: dcowboy@mcn.org
Subject: My Latest Salvo in the Name-Change Debate!

Hi Joan.

Longtime no see 😊 Linda Jupiter advised to send all comments to you. Mine follow:

For those who say they **salute** the **scrubbing** of, and desire for a name change for Fort Bragg, "but...**be careful**, it would **draw hordes of people** if the **name was too attractive** (e.g., Noyo Bay or Noyo by the Sea), then **what we enjoy** would **be lost.**"

I say:

Is 400 years "careful" enough? We've been given a once-in-a-lifetime chance to do something good and positive and redemptive about systemic racism, and yet one little three-letter word is all it takes to dissuade us? " BUT....."! When we worry more about, "What we enjoy here," than about the dignity of our fellow sojourners, then we are not worthy of having "what we enjoy here."

P.S. Scrubbing will take more than a salute, which is NOTHING more than paying homage to the status quo....

Based on this theory (we mustn't select an attractive name), SAN FRANCISCO should rename herself, FORT BRAGG! That would keep those pesky tourists (YOU AND ME) away in droves!

BTW, I like the suggestion for a name, Lost Coast! However, perhaps Lost Cause would be more appropriate with the naysayers we have here on this lost coast.

Don Claybrook, Ph.D.

In regards to the cost of making the change: the only price with which we should concern ourselves is the price paid by Black and Native Americans for having to endure systemic racism for 400 years; and, 508 years. Perhaps these truths we hold are not so self-evident....that (ALL) were endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of...not being murdered while the nation watches on TV...by the very people who were sworn to protect life, liberty and the pursuit of.....basic human dignity.

With a hope that doesn't easily die,

Don Claybrook, Ph.D.

Lemos, June

From: Kate Sarfaty <katrina.or@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:52 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City name change item 8A

I am in favor of changing the name to Noyo, CA.

Regards
Kate Sarfaty
Mendocino

Lemos, June

From: Barbara and David Brown <dbb@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

It's time for a name change - let's make it one we can all be proud of. There are many possibilities - a hero who helped Fort Bragg, (preferably a dead hero whose complete history is known), a family that has been here for generations and has done good things. (The 1905 hero who saved Fort Bragg from burning after the earthquake - was that Johnson?)

There already seems to be family names on our streets, Tregoning, Veronica, Peterson - all could be considered as well as - Pine, Chestnut, Cedar, Cypress, Maple. I also like Noyo.

Thank you,

Barbara Brown
dbb@mcn.org

Lemos, June

From: gmenken <gmenken@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Suggested Name change for Fort Bragg

Given that Jerry Melo was such an iconic figure in our community. I hereby submit my recommendation for the city to be renamed:

Port Melo

Sincerely,

Gregory Menken

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Lemos, June

From: Nancy Gardner <gardner@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:35 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: NAME CHANGE NOW

I am a local business owner and 35 year resident.

I ask the board of supervisors to support changing the town of Fort Bragg's name to something that is not offensive or representative of racial bias.

Thank-you,
Nancy
Nancy Gardner
gardner@mcn.org

Lemos, June

From: Bill Cornelius <billcor@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:23 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FB name

Hi:

I propose it be changed to Trumpsburg in exchange for \$100K for each resident from the Trump Foundation, or TrumpsaConceitedBitchVille if he declines. The price would go up (per head) to have name #2 changed before the election. In either case, the name would have the expiration date of whenever he's deposed.

Sincerely
Bill Cornelius (not Crecelius) :)

Lemos, June

From: Gary Mason <gmason3751@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:15 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

"Glass Beach"
Gary Mason

Lemos, June

From: Obsidian Monarch <obsidianmonarch@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:11 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: lets change our racist past

all in favor here (3 in household) to change our racist past name...

billy sprague
valentine falcon
alva sprague

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 9:20 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Fwd: Regarding name change

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Robert Higgs <rnhiggs94@gmail.com>
Date: June 13, 2020 at 5:45:22 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: **Regarding name change**

Will,

Wouldn't you say it's a little craven to say that you're considering doing something for your city that you've actually decided you have no interest in doing, just to appease people? Because I definitely get the sense that that's some punk pussy shit.



Ryan Bushnell ► Fort Bragg is my roots

17 mins · 🌐

I sent to our Fort Bragg California Mayor Will Lee this letter concerning town name:

Will it is just me, I am furious that they are on change Fort Braggs name again. My family went back so many generations this is stupid, town would never be the same it has been this forever 77 yrs of my life and 89 of Charlies. What they want, that it is not good enough now—then throw Bragg in, get a bit of political then decide what area of town, the Finns, Italian Portuguese, Hispanic. Indian, does this then become a racial pick of name? Do they need a Noyo By The Sea, California--what a frigging mess, then they will want to split the state again. Fort Bragg California is my home town and I like the name, home of fisherman and loggers, and all American Families, like Apple Pie and Ice Cream.

Our Mayor answered and gave me permission to share:

We are only DISCUSSING this because of a National uproar on this topic. The people of Fort Bragg will decide and I can guarantee you they WILL NOT change the name of our town. It is not up to five of us to decide for the 8000 people in FB!!

From me:

Now I suggest all of you who like the name our town has had forever send in your feelings to our city council and people go to the meetings on this Raise your voices

Listen to the people raising objections about the name. They have a legitimate grievance.

Best,
Robert

Lemos, June

From: Brody Sloan <brodysloan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 7:23 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: City Name Change

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Mayor Lee,

Just read that Fort Bragg is considering changing its name. How about Sequoia?

All the best,

Brody Sloan

Lemos, June

From: susan allen nutter <sanutter@mcn.org>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 2:13 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: SUGGESTIONS

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Lee,

In light of recent suggestions to change the name of Fort Bragg, I would like to offer “Noyo Harbor” as a new name for our town. It is the geographic point for the town and indicates the coastal site and we already readily identify with it.

Also, driving along Main St. this weekend and seeing the tourists at the Noyo Headlands, there were few masks being worn by tourists. I think the City should post signs on Main and Franklin Sts. and elsewhere urging people to wear masks indoors *and outdoors*. I hate to see what our Covid-19 case count will be in two weeks and thereafter.

That is all (for now:}).

Susan Nutter
950 Glass Beach Dr.
Fort Bragg aka Noyo Harbor
964-3711

Lemos, June

From: susan allen nutter <sanutter@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:56 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name proposed

Noyo Harbor: It is a geographical point on the map, was one of the reasons for establishing the town of Fort Bragg, it is already a landmark, it indicates location on the ocean, and it is a name being used already by some businesses and a name we are already used to and using.

Lemos, June

From: Rostom Zenountian <hye_ardzeev@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 10:37 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Re: Ft Bragg

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I'm so sorry - the bios were from theroot.com, not pbs.com. My mistake.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 13, 2020, at 10:36 PM, Rostom Zenountian <hye_ardzeev@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

Hello Mr Mayor,

I read on sfgate.com that Ft Bragg is considering a name change. How about to Ft Bluford? I mean a black colonel in the military AND an astronaut? Can't go wrong with that. I also like the sound of Ft Haynes - he served as a black minuteman in the Revolutionary War after earning his freedom from slavery. Both bios of Bluford and Haynes are below, courtesy of pbs.com. Thanks, Rostom

Col. Guion S. Bluford Jr.: After flying combat missions over Vietnam as a U.S. Air Force pilot, he went on to become one of America's first black astronauts. He flew 144 combat missions, 65 over North Vietnam, as a member of the 557th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam.

Lemuel Haynes: He served as a minuteman during the American Revolutionary War, fighting at the April 1775 Battle of Lexington. He was an indentured servant who enlisted in the war after earning his freedom. He later became an ordained Protestant minister.

Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Tait Selvik <tait.selvik@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Name of town

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Greetings Will,

Curious as to whether or not there is discussion of re naming fort bragg . Being that it is named after a well know I'll mannered confederate general. There is a tremendous moved to make right and not celebrate the lives of those who oppressed African Americans in this country. Noting your origins in Nola, I'm sure you are aware. Myself a Texan. Since living in fort bragg also have noticed the somewhat yet reprehensible bigotry towards Hispanics/gays/ and African Americans. It could be a positive directional gesture that could take traction amongst our community. Realizing this may seem out of the questions. Though I challenge you to at least give this idea a moment to process.

Truly,
Concerned citizen,
Tait Selvik

Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Linda Leitner <lindaal@mcn.org>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 6:07 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Fort Bragg Name Change

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Mayor Will,

Thank you for placing agenda item for changing name of 'Fort Bragg' on June 22 City Council Meeting.

Linda Leitner

Lemos, June

From: Mary Gill <marygill@pacbell.net>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 2:25 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: The name of Fort Bragg should again be an issue

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mayor Lee, I think it is clear that the city of Fort Bragg should again address the origins of our town's name, as the country awakens to the insult of honoring a man like Braxton Bragg - a slave owner, a racist and a failed general.

I am one of those who has not pushed this issue...the Civil War is long over and of little relevance here in this quiet town. However, it is time to think this through again before we face the approbation of outsiders.

I have a suggestion! Changing the name of the town is expensive and difficult. Why not rededicate our town to another Bragg - to clearly and purposefully tell the world we do not honor the memory of Braxton Bragg?

Jesse Bragg was a 3rd baseman in the Negro baseball leagues. He was not a star nor a hero, but rather a talented man who wanted to play baseball and was forbidden from using those talents on white teams. Like the Tuskegee airmen, black baseball players were just as good if not better but were excluded and not given their due.

Let's rededicate our little outpost fort on the north coast to Jesse Bragg. Build a display to honor him, the Negro leagues, and all those whose talents have been excluded, whose lives were considered less than valuable. (And it's notable he played for several teams named 'Giants' - that's a bonus!)

Let's tell the world we no longer honor Braxton Bragg.

Love to chat about this if it is of any interest to you.

Mary Gill
964-7021

Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Celina Torres <ctorres47@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 12:15 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Re: History of City's name

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Will - Thank you so very much for your response. I was not aware of the history of the name so I was surprised when I read the article in the Post. I hope the city decides to rename itself out of respect for African Americans and because the City deserves to have a name that more truly reflects its character.

I lived in Austin a few years ago and I literally cringed every time I had to walk by a statue of a confederate soldier. It just doesn't seem right. I imagine those that know their history feel the same way when they drive by the town, even if just for a moment. I know I'll think of that now that I know.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,
Celina

On Thursday, June 11, 2020, Lee, Will <Wlee@fortbragg.com> wrote:

Hello Celina

Yes both cities are named after Braxton Bragg. We have zero monuments or recognition publicity other than the name. This issue has come up over the past decades and the people had no interest in changing the name then.

We have recently received requests for us to consider changing the town's name and I believe the City Council May discuss this at our next meeting June 22. I'd recommend putting this issue to the voters of the city to decide as I am not empowered to change the name. I'm not a king. Lol.

Please let me know if you'd like more information.

All the best,
Will

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 11, 2020, at 3:16 PM, Celina Torres <ctorres47@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Hello Mr. Lee,

>

> The Washington Post published an article today stating that the military base named Fort Bragg was named after a confederate commander. Would this be the case for your city's name as well? A General Braxton Bragg?

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Celina

>

>

>

> --

> Sent from Gmail Mobile

Email correspondence with the City of Fort Bragg (and attachments, if any) may be subject to the California Public Records Act, and as such may therefore be subject to public disclosure unless otherwise exempt under the Act.

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

Lemos, June

From: JoAnne MacTaggart <jkmactaggart@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 11:53 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Re: Renaming the Town

Looking forward to the exciting revisioning for the town and its vitality with a new name. I moved to Fremont CA in 1959 when it incorporated. Sadly, they chose a lousy name disregarding the other obvious choices, and that once lively community is an abomination having wandered so very far from its own moral compass.

Best wishes for a collaborative process,
Dr JK MacTaggart

On Fri, Jun 12, 2020, 12:01 AM JoAnne MacTaggart <jkmactaggart@gmail.com> wrote:

I'm curious as to whether any of conscientious citizens have again voiced a desire to rename the town, to better reflect its beauty, a more brighter vision of the community, realistic history, or other such value?

Thank you and best regards,

JK MacTaggart

Lemos, June

From: John Doe <clseller1001@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:13 PM
To: Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; emailblmla@gmail.com; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; news@sfweekly.com; newstips@foxtv.com; Lee, Will; Albin-Smith, Tess
Subject: Re: The upcoming renaming of your town

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thanks for the inquiry into my personal life, I wonder what relevance does the location of my birth has on this issue? Are you attempting to repeat the response as your former mayor and current city counsel member had in the SF Weekly article, (quoting mayor Lindy Peters from the article) “ we’re Fort Bragg because we’re Fort Bragg goshdarnit, and we’re proud of being from Fort Bragg, and we don’t want anyone from outside coming in and telling us to change our name.”. What do you think the reaction would be if Mr.Peters made that statement in todays environment? How about you, are you willing to support this argument? This ‘we can celebrate a slave owning confederate general if we want and no outsider is gonna tell us different’ logic is bigoted and seriously flawed. You cannot continue to celebrate a racist while claiming that it is not an issue because he never came here. I believe since your town relays almost exclusively on tourism to survive, risking boycott, protest and national exposure of such bigotry will change your mind even if logic, morals and empathy do not. Remember right now at this moment you get to decide which side of history your town ends up on, this is a gift considering the choices your mayor and city council have made in the last 5 years, do not miss it.

Personal inquiries are irrelevant, assumptions are dangerous, public statements are required

Aaron Bogue

On Jun 11, 2020, at 6:14 PM, Norvell, Bernie <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com> wrote:

Thank you for the email Mr Bogue. Where are you from

B.

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

On Jun 11, 2020, at 5:45 PM, John Doe <clseller1001@gmail.com> wrote:

I am wondering why I have not heard the public announcement and detailed plan as to how fort Bragg will be renamed after the slave owning confederate general for which it is named is exposed to a national audience. While you might like to think this is a 'new' issue news stories have been written on this issue in the past, the most recent I could find before this year was an article in SF gate from 2017 <https://www.sfweekly.com/news/fort-bragg-ca-is-named-for-a-confederate-general/> Your town has ignored or chosen to keep hidden the bigot, slave owning, racist history which the name of your town celebrates. It is sad it requires a national event to shed light on a clear and unacceptable celebration of such a bigot. As you must know, words and reasoning like 'southern heritage' are code for white supremacy, if there is one thing I am sure of, fort bragg's tourism driven economy does not want to be associated with this. In order to have the widest conversation on the issue, I have copied the press in Mendocino county and the Bay Area and equality projects around California on this email. I look forward to your very public statement regarding the renaming of your town, do not miss your opportunity to confront and begin to heal.

Aaron Bogue
a concerned citizen

Sent from my iPhone

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Email correspondence with the City of Fort Bragg (and attachments, if any) may be subject to the California Public Records Act, and as such may therefore be subject to public disclosure unless otherwise exempt under the Act.

Lemos, June

From: Willow Walker <willowwalker95437@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: re: changing our name to Noyo

Know changing the name of our town to something with Noyo or Pomo would be expensive and full of red tape and paperwork and take a long time. BUT, in the meantime we could start doing a slow move to that end. Folks could start calling Fort Bragg Noyo or whatever name is chosen. Businesses could start changing the name on their cards and such slowly and methodically.

We could have a new yearly festival, ReFounders Day. Have loads of swag with the new name and perhaps a contest for all local artists to make some cool illustration for the new name to go on t-shirts and posters and caps.

We've had financial downturns in Fort Bragg before, but, seems like this is one of the worst. Have you walked down Franklin Street? So sad how many empty stores and businesses which have shut down.

The name change could be part of the way we reclaim our town. And honor the Native Americans who were settled here first instead of having a name that is a constant reminder of the cruelty they suffered when white folks moved in and pushed them out.

Only lived here 44 years but still love this town!

Lynne Weinerman Calder

Lemos, June

From: Debbie Simpson <mendocoastbroker@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:15 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

As a business person I realize that changing the name comes at a cost, however I do agree it should be changed.

I think it should be **Noyo Bay**. Just Noyo is strange. We have Half Moon Bay, Bodega Bay, Coos Bay. I think Noyo Bay would be attractive.

Thanks

Debbie Simpson, Realtor

Broker Associate

ABR, CPRES, GRI, MCNE

Century 21 Fort Bragg Realty
809 N Main St. Fort Bragg, CA 95437
(707) 972-4035

MendoCoastBroker@gmail.com

www.MendoCoastHomes.com

CalBRE# 01290324

ABR = Accredited Buyer's Representative
CPRES = Certified Probate Real Estate Specialist
GRI = Graduate, Realtors Institute
MCNE = Master Certified Negotiations Expert

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Lemos, June

From: Sally Ottoson <sallysocean@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

Please add my name to the list of name-change supporters!

Sally Ottoson
Pacific Star Winery
33000 N Highway 1
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

sallysocean@gmail.com
707-972-0344

Lemos, June

From: shsharealike@saber.net
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: I'd love to see a name change

I live in Laytonville but that makes me nearby! I think now is the time to support the changes that need to be made in this country including getting rid of honoring or allowing racism in any way.

On the MCN I see very little tribal input; does no one communicate with the Native community?

Language is important.

Thank you for your kind attention,

Sharon Paltin, M.D.

PS I'm not sure I'm so hot on "Layton"ville either! Certainly not Kelseyville, yick!

GOOD LUCK

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Lemos, June

From: marchelo bresciani <marchelo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:40 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Change the Fort Bragg town name

Hello esteemed City Council Members,

My name is Marchelo, and I support changing the name of our town.
I have written a statement that I would like to share at the meeting if possible.
You will find my full statement below. Thank you for your time and consideration.

How do we honor someone worth remembering?
How do we celebrate the greats for their noble deeds?
What can we do to make someone a hero for all time?

One way we celebrate heroes is to try and create something permanent in their honor, something that will outlive us and carry on their good name.
We build statutes to glorify their contributions to society.
We name places after them: military bases, hospitals, and towns.

By doing these things, we ensure that their legacy lives on into the future.
We make sure that this person above all others is not forgotten.
It is perhaps the best way we have to immortalize someone worth remembering.

So what of Fort Bragg? Who was Braxton Bragg, the namesake of our town?
You all know who he was- Braxton Bragg was the worst general in the Confederate Army- an army of traitors who fought for the right to enslave black people.

Bragg believed in slavery so strongly, that he decided the best thing he could do was lead an armed rebellion against his fellow Americans. He chose to be a general in charge of a traitorous army, rather than give up his god-given right to own black people as property.

Luckily for America, Bragg was a terrible general.
Many historians have credited his awful leadership of the Confederate army, and his string of battlefield defeats, as key factors in the ultimate failure of the Confederacy.

Why do I know all of this?
Why should I, or anyone for that matter, care at all about Braxton Bragg, the worst general of the traitor losers?
I'm no historian. But I am resident of Fort Bragg California.
I live here, I work here, I own land here, and so I now know who Braxton Bragg was.

Our community bares his name.
Our town ensures that the legacy of Braxton Bragg lives on.

And yet, as we all know, Braxton Bragg was not from here.
In fact, Bragg never set one foot here in our town.

So why do we fight so hard to hang on to the name of the worst general of the traitor losers?

"Because it's our history damn it- and you can't just erase that."

The people who were born here, who were raised here, you all know that our Fort Bragg has nothing to do with General Braxton Bragg. You are not Confederates. You are not racists.

I understand that to you, keeping the name Fort Bragg is about maintaining the heritage of our strong and enduring community- it's about preserving a shared past for future generations. If Fort Bragg is on your birth certificate, and we change the town name, where are you from? Nowhere?

You are and always will be from here.

What anyone calls this beautiful town will never change that.

I am here to say that this is not about you.

And it is certainly not about me.

This is about who we as a community chose to celebrate.

Who do we raise up for all time?

Who do we honor with the very name of our town?

We honor the worst general of the Confederate traitor losers - Braxton Bragg.

In the 9 years I've called Fort Bragg home (not long enough to be a local, I know) I've come to understand that this is not who we are. The people of Fort Bragg have no love for the Confederacy.

It is not who we honor or celebrate. Not with parks, or statues, or parades. Not at Whale Fest, not at the Salmon BBQ, and not during our Paul Bunyan Days.

The name Fort Bragg is just a quirky piece of history that we all got stuck with.

And we are laid back enough folk to just roll with it. WE know that is not what we are about, and that is enough.

But how long will we choose to be champions for this traitorous loser?

That is on us. You and me, living in the here and now.

Will we continue to insist that the beauty of our coastal community be forever tarnished by the stain of Bragg's racism?

Do we cherish the name "Bragg" that much?

We don't need to tear down our history,
but we don't have to hold up past injustices forever either.

We are better than that.

And it is time, now, to do something about it.

I support changing the name of our town.

Braxton Bragg does not deserve to be honored here.

He was not from here, but if we fight to keep his name, he will stay here forever.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

I love this town dearly, and I hope that you have a lovely day.

-Marchelo-

--



Marchelo Bresciani

(310) 482-7496

[email](#) • [website](#)



Lemos, June

From: Stewart Dickson <mathartspd@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:51 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Re: [MCN-Announce]- new name for FB

To the Fort Bragg City Council:

I was not born in Fort Bragg. I moved here a year and a half ago. I own my home here. I'm not here part-time or temporarily. I'm not leaving.

I have friends who actually trained with the Army in the actual Fort Bragg in North Carolina. It is a source of confusion and incongruous that there should be another place named Fort Bragg on the Mendocino Coast which has not actually been an Army fort for 150 years.

I want to clarify some of the comments I have been seeing. Braxton Bragg was not yet a Confederate general at the time our town was named, but he was an unsavory character who has no legitimate claim to memorializing on the Mendocino Coast. More than the Confederacy, Fort Bragg, California was a staging place for the clearance of Native people for enclosure of the land for logging.

My name is completely Scottish. I know a bit of the history of the Scottish Clearance and Enclosures, although my ancestors left Scotland for Northern Ireland some decades before the actual Clearances. American Imperialism is no better nor different than English Imperialism.

In full disclosure, my maternal grandmother died before I was born. My grandfather re-married the daughter of a Captain Stephen C. Mills, U.S. Army, who "chased Geronimo across the Southwest" before rising in rank to general and overseeing the occupation of the Philippines. My step-grandmother contracted tuberculosis, but survived growing up in the Philippines. I inherited a photograph of Captain Mills with an Indian scout and another US soldier. And his collection of Rudyard Kipling editions.

Rudyard Kipling and Teddy Roosevelt were great influencers of my great-grandfather's generation. Rudyard Kipling was a well-documented and infamous racist in the tradition of English imperialism. But he and Teddy both produced some great stories.

I think that Noyo, California would be a fine name for our town. If you're interested in growing the tourist industry, my wife and I can think of no better name than Glass Beach, California, 95437.

It is the job of the Fort Bragg-Mendocino Coast Historical Society to maintain an accurate historical memory and to preserve the stories of our town. But we don't need to put forth publicly in our name the aspects of our history of which we are not proud.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

-Stewart Dickson, 110 N Whipple St., Glass Beach, CA 95437

<http://www.imdb.com/Name?Stewart+Dickson> <http://www.ifp.uiuc.edu/~sdickson>

<http://www.mathart.org> <http://mumstudents.org/~000-10-8151/Lab1/aboutme.html>

Lemos, June

From: Ellie Green <ellieg@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:44 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: NAME CHANGE

I'm in favor of changing the name of our town. I'm disabled & unable to attend City Council meeting in person. I've lived in Fort Bragg since 1993.

My choice:

NOYO HARBOR

Thank you.

Ellie Green, 520 Cypress St., #41, Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: KB Smith <ksmith@dependencylaw.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

Dear Council Members,

I live just outside Fort Bragg city limits, but my address is in Fort Bragg. I am in favor of changing the name of the city. I think it is important to realize it is not just because Bragg joined the confederacy and was a slave owner and a dishonorable person. If that were enough, there would be countless places whose names would need changing.

It is also because this area was only actually a “fort” for about 10 years of its history; a fort which was put into operation solely to enslave and control the local indigenous people and ultimately to move them inland to reservations.

This heinous action of making a “fort” for that purpose, combined with using the name of a man that none of us would condone today, makes the option of changing the name of this beautiful place to reflect its true character an obvious choice. There will never be a better time.

I would support any number of names that have been put forth: Noyo Harbor, Noyo Bay, Pomo Beach, Glass Beach, etc.

Sincerely,
Kristin Smith
Pudding Creek Rd.
Fort Bragg, CA

Lemos, June

From: Anna Marie Stenberg <ams@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: change the name

I have lived in Ft Bragg since 1978. The father of my children's family is one of the original settlers of Ft Bragg.

Knowing the genocidal history of the area and who Col. Bragg was has often made me ashamed of telling people where I live. It is such a beautiful town and it deserves a name we can all be proud of.

Please change the name. Noyo would be fie.

Thank You

Anna Marie Stenberg

254 Wall st

Fort Bragg, Ca Ph# 964 9109

Lemos, June

From: cecilia townsend <cecilia@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: change name of Fort Bragg

hi

I support changing the name of our city.

Cecilia Townsend
31700 Johnson Lane
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
964-3167

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: New Name for Old City

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: jef schultz <jefschultz@hotmail.com>
Date: June 18, 2020 at 1:55:47 PM PDT
To: "wlee@fortbragg.com" <wlee@fortbragg.com>
Cc: ellen buechner <ellenbuechner@hotmail.com>
Subject: New Name for Old City

Hello Mayor Will,

This is Jef Schultz checking in with you about the potential name change for the city of Ft. Bragg. You may remember me as the long-term sub at Ft. Bragg Middle School who invited you to speak with the 8th grade History/Civics class earlier this year. I am not even a resident of Ft. Bragg, but hope you will listen to some of my thoughts. Our family lives in Caspar and operates Fortunate Farm. I have heard through the grapevine that the local indigenous leaders in our area may be speaking out about their feelings/thoughts at the next meeting/discussion of this issue. This is good news. I am also hoping that you will extend to them the courtesy of being allowed to speak first. After all, as the first peoples of our area, with a rugged and anguished history, not to mention having their land stolen out from under them . . . I feel it would be the generous and kindly thing to do. My understanding is that this issue will be brought to a vote of the people and I read today that Governor Newsom is supporting the implementation of a name change for Ft. Bragg. I am also very much in favor of the idea. I feel it is the least we can do to offer some recompense and honor for our Native American brothers and sisters who are still among us representing their culture. We would be making history of our own and moving the consciousness of the people in a healthy direction.

Just a few thoughts for you. Thank you for taking a couple minutes to consider them.

Respectfully,

Jef Schultz

Proposed Name-Change for Fort Bragg

Excuses for not taking action I've read on MCN Announce/Discussion List:

For those who say they **salute** the **scrubbing** of, and desire for a name change for Fort Bragg, "but...**be careful**, it would **draw hordes of people** if the **name was too attractive** (e.g., Noyo Bay or Noyo by the Sea), then **what we enjoy** would be lost."

To that I say:

Is 400 years "careful" enough? We've been given a once-in-a-lifetime chance to do something good and positive and redemptive about systemic racism, and yet one little three-letter word is all it takes to dissuade us? "BUT...."! When we worry more about, "What we enjoy here," than about the dignity of our fellow sojourners, then we are not worthy of having "what we enjoy here."

Scrubbing the Remnants of Racism:

P.S. Scrubbing will take more than a salute, which is NOTHING more than paying homage to the status quo....

Based on this theory (not selecting an attractive name), SAN FRANCISCO should rename herself, FORT BRAGG! That would keep those pesky tourists (YOU AND ME) away in droves!

Proposed Names:

BTW, I like the suggestion for a name, Lost Coast! However, perhaps Lost Cause would be more appropriate with the naysayers we have here on this lost coast.

Don Claybrook, Ph.D.

It Would Cost too much:

In regard to the cost of making the change: the only price with which we should concern ourselves is the price paid by Black and Native Americans for having to endure systemic racism for 400 years; and, 508 years. Perhaps these truths we hold are not so self-evident...that (ALL) were endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of...not being murdered while the nation watches on TV...by the very people who were sworn to protect life, liberty and the pursuit of.....basic human dignity.

We enrolled our 6-year-old daughter in 1st grade in Dallas in 1973. Six months in, her school had a "Meet the Teacher Night." My wife and I went and couldn't believe our eyes. When we got home, we sat our daughter down and I asked, "Autumn, why didn't you tell us your teacher was black? With a tear in her eye and fear in her heart, she responded, "I didn't know she was, Daddy!" Because of what I learned from the mouth of a Babe; I discovered racism in my heart that I didn't even know was there. I refuse to go quietly. Even when it comes to systemic racism we don't even know exists, especially in our own hearts. It is not for us to say whether of not something is racist. That must come from the victims who have suffered most. If they say it's racist, its racists. With a hope that doesn't easily die,

Don Claybrook, Sr., Ph.D.

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:09 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Name Change

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "livefree77@aol.com" <livefree77@aol.com>
Date: June 18, 2020 at 3:33:06 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Name Change

Greetings, Mayor, I sent a postcard, but am afraid that it will not arrive in time. Here's my thinking on re-naming your city:

I hope that you will consider renaming your town with the name of a winner, not the name of a loser. Just imagine if your town had been named Fort Hitler or Fort Stalin. (There were Americans who happily did business with both, so it is not so far fetched.) F.W. Bishop

Lemos, June

From: Julia Whitty <julia.whitty@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:28 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Rename Fort Bragg

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Lee,

I urge you to rename your lovely town something worthy and reject in any way honoring a traitor and a slave owner. It's an inexcusable affront to all descendants of slaves.

Thank you.

Julia Whitty

Lemos, June

From: Phil and Lore McLaren <mclarenzoo@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:16 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Fw: Letter to the Editor - Name Change for Fort Bragg

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi, Will - thought I'd forward this to you. Below is a Letter to the Editor I have sent to the Advocate News. Not sure if/when they might print it, with their reduced format, so I wanted to make you aware that I support a name change for our city, and my reasoning for that. I will try to attend the 6/22 council meeting.

Loré McLaren

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Phil and Lore McLaren <mclarenzoo@att.net>
To: editor@advocate-news.com <editor@advocate-news.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020, 08:14:20 AM PDT
Subject: Letter to the Editor - Name Change for Fort Bragg

The conversation begins again about changing the name of Fort Bragg. This community being what it is, the conversation will no doubt be lively, with strong opinions on both sides. I for one want to go on record as supporting a change of our city's name.

A name change will certainly be disruptive and expensive. But I submit that the disruption will truly be **creative** disruption. I also submit that in the long run, the cost of not changing our city's name will be far greater.

First, this community depends on tourism for its survival. Attracting tourism depends on our ability to present a warm, welcoming, and inclusive identity to the world. We cannot do that if our name continues to honor a man who was both a slave-owner and a general of the Confederacy.

Second, but far more important, is the moral cost, born by every citizen and every community, of not taking a stand at this critical juncture in our nation's history.

A long over-due wave of awareness and change is swelling in this society. This city can either ride that wave and be part of a better future for all of us, or we can let it pass us by. If we let it pass us by without taking a stand and doing the right thing, we will find ourselves adrift and becalmed, a mere back-water of history. And we will deserve it.

Loré McLaren
427 1/2 North Harold Street
Fort Bragg, CA
707-409-5102

Lemos, June

From: Judith Edwards <jedwards@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 8:14 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Mayor Lee,

Please consider that if the Fort Bragg name change is on the ballot in November, people who live outside the city, but their address is Fort Bragg, should be able to vote also.

Respectfully,
Judith Edwards

Lemos, June

From: Merri Banks <xtrekr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: name of town

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Given the controversy around honoring confederate officers, I wonder if there is any consideration of a name change? Gen. Bragg was a terrible officer and a bad person. It is a bad look for your charming town.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Lemos, June

From: Susie Halvorson <mendogardener@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: I am in favor of changing Fort Braggs name.

I am a resident of Fort Bragg and am very active in the community. I have talked to seniors and young adults who want the name change as well. I feel those resistant are mostly business owners who think it will cost them too much to change logos and business forms/documents, ect. I believe the process can be a slow transition and when supplies run out then order with the new name. I would be more than happy to help with fundraising and organizing our youth to help make physical changes necessary. Now is the perfect time to show tourists and the Pomos that we will not tolerate racism in any form.

Sincerely,

Susie Halvorson
P.O. Box 2816
Fort Bragg, Ca. 95437
#707-357-8357

Lemos, June

From: Susie Halvorson <suezeehal@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Change the name

I recently sent an email but wanted to add that some are saying that changing the name will erase the history. If the majority votes to change the name then I suggest we have a large plaque next to town hall or city hall that tells the history of the name change. From Fort Bragg to... And why.

Sincerely,

Susan Halvorson
Resident of Fort Bragg

Lemos, June

From: I lucco <openedge@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 8:57 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Name Change

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mayor Lee,

Fort Bragg has been our town for thirty years and we truly love living here.

Certainly we want what's best for Fort Bragg regarding the possible name change and in this light there is only one possible choice for residents and businesses alike.

We have got to join the world in denouncing racism, from statues to unequal rights to getting rid of the name of our beautiful city. Fort Bragg is not a racist city and the world should know this about us. Now, with the publicity of bigoted associations with our town's name, anything short of changing our name would be extremely negative for our future.

All our wonderful memories and experiences of living in Fort Bragg will not be erased if we change our name. This is a great place to live and work and we should be proud of our city and our relationship with the rest of the world. We are friendly, decent and fair-minded people but now we are misrepresented by our own name.

Due to recent events we can no longer hope to hide the racist associations with our City's name.

So, it is with absolute certainty that we say going forward with the name of Fort Bragg is terrible for both residents and businesses. If you are a black person "Fort Bragg" is a direct affront. If you are anyone else who believes in equal rights for all people, the name Fort Bragg has become a misrepresentation and an embarrassment.

Finally, we can turn the changing of our name into a wonderful opportunity for the future of "NOYO" or "NOYO HARBOUR," with all the good publicity of a city standing up and doing the right thing.

Please stand with us and vote to change our name and our future for the better.

Sincerely,

Nick and Leslie Lucco

Lemos, June

From: Angelica Evins <angelicaevins@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Support for Changing Fort Bragg's Name

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Lee,

For the past several years, my husband and I have traveled to Fort Bragg about 3 times per year to enjoy the local hikes, mushroom hunting, restaurants, and peaceful town. It's our happy place. This is why I was incredibly disturbed to learn the dark history of the town's name in this week's Press Democrat. As a woman of color, I no longer feel comfortable supporting a town with violence and racism embedded in its name. I sincerely hope that you will work towards changing the town's name. In the meantime, my husband and I will travel elsewhere.

Sincerely,
Angie

Lemos, June

From: Kristin Drew <drew.kristin@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: name change

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I just heard you on KQED, and I am from Napa. I work at Napa High School, where we recently underwent a mascot change.

I just want to offer you my support, while I support Black Lives Matter wholeheartedly, your stance to let your citizens decide is imperative.

During our mascot name change issue, the supporters of keeping the name were claiming that it was all about outside forces, and the arguments were quite divisive. It actually came from a committee from various interests that met together for a year. Lingering anger caused the ouster of the principal, it was ugly.

Education, time and the idea of rededicating the person you are honoring, are all positive steps that could allow people to feel more comfortable.

I truly believe that Life is Change and Change is Life but it is so very hard for people.

Take care,
Kristin Drew

Lemos, June

From: Toni Dine <tonidine@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 9:08 AM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Rename Fort Bragg to Fort John McCain please

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Lemos, June

From: Shirley Hensley <shensley8093@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:54 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Renaming the city

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mayor Lee, I am writing to ask that you think more wisely about considering naming your city after George Floyd. George had a history of criminal behavior, he was in the process of committing a crime when the police caught up with him. If you feel the need to change the name of your city there are so many good, law abiding citizens of color to choose from. To name your city after George Floyd is not an example you want to give your citizens especially the children.

Following are a few suggestions:

Martin Luther King Jr.
President Barack Obama
Jesse Owens 4 gold medals in the Berlin Olympics 1936
Frederick Douglas
Booker T Washington advisor to Pres. Roosevelt & Taft
Thurgood Marshall US Civil Rights Lawyer, 1st African-American to the US Supreme Court
Harriet Tubman
Rosa Parks
Shirley Chisholm First black Congresswoman

These are all African-American men and women who contributed to the success of our country and their people. They are all wonderful examples of success and would bring pride to your city.

Thank you,
Shirley Hensley

Lemos, June

From: Duff Beach <dcbeach@uwalumni.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 5:26 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Re-Naming Fort Bragg

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mayor Lee (and councilmembers),

Thank you for agendaizing placing a city name change on the November ballot. It has always been incongruous that a Union state would have a city named for a Confederate general--i.e., a traitor to the United States.

I hope that the city council will vote to place this issue on the November ballot, and I hope the city's voters will vote to make the change.

When that time comes, genuine U.S. heroes from California aren't hard to find and would make for great changes to the city's name. Perhaps Fort Munemori. While his name may not roll off the tongue, he was from California, a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team--Japanese Americans fighting in Italy despite their families having been sent to internment camps in the West--and was awarded the Medal of Honor for his gallantry. Talk about an appropriate nod to a heroic Californian, and also a fine way to preserve important history.

Or Fort Gomez, for Eduardo Gomez--also a Californian and a Medal of Honor recipient for his gallantry in the Korean War.

Or Fort Carter, for Edward Carter Jr., another Californian, and one of seven black Americans awarded the Medal of Honor for their service during World War II.

Finding true American heroes among Californians isn't difficult, and tying that in with important history is similarly no particular challenge. How appropriate to seize this moment in history to ditch the name of a traitor to the United States in favor of a true American hero? I hope the Fort Bragg city council and its citizens choose that course.

Given the concern for preserving history, my vote would be Fort Munemori, but there are many suitable options.

All the best--and please don't feel any need to respond; I am not your constituent, and well I understand the time pressure city council members operate under.

Yours,
Duff Beach
Burlingame, CA
U.S. Army Veteran

Lemos, June

From: Forester, Phillip <pforester@santarosa.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 5:07 PM
To: Lee, Will
Cc: mary.callahan@pressdemocrat.com
Subject: Suggestion for Renaming

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Will,

I have a suggestion for a possible renaming of Fort Bragg. Why not keep the name, but have a special renaming ceremony in which another person named Bragg is designated as the honoree?

Under the title "Bragg (surname)" Wikipedia has a comprehensive list of other notables with that name.

The list includes another Civil War general, but this time one on the Union side: Edward S. Bragg. He was an accomplished individual – skillful general severely wounded at Antietam who returned to fight on against the Confederacy, a lawyer who served as district attorney and state senator, four times member of U.S. House of Representatives, highly placed diplomat to Mexico, Cuba, and Hong Kong.

Obviously, it's an expensive and time-consuming ordeal to completely rename a city. Choosing another Bragg addresses the problem with minimal upheaval. I think it would be very appropriate to select a general on the right side of history, the side that ended the terrible ordeal of slavery.

Yours,

Phil Forester
Sebastopol

Lemos, June

From: Tyler Felt <tyler.d.felt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 12:33 PM
To: Lee, Will
Subject: Renaming

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mr Mayor,

I was just reading about your upcoming city council meeting in which the issue of renaming your fine city will be brought up before the city council and then possibly the public in November. I am not from Fort Bragg and my voice means nothing to this discussion, but if the decision is put to the citizens and they vote to change the name - I would like to suggest Glass Beach California.

The glass beaches that dot Fort Bragg are beautiful, and stand as an example that something wondrous can come from something so ugly as dumping trash in the ocean. I desire no credit for my idea, share it with whomever you see fit, or simply ignore it.

I wish Fort Bragg / Glass Beach the very best moving forward. You are a wonderful community, and you are in my thoughts.

Tyler D. Felt

Lemos, June

From: Tigerlily <tlj@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

City Council,

Although I do not currently live in Fort Bragg, I have in the past, lived and had a business there, as well as continue to shop for goods and services there, and consider myself part of the community.

I am in support of changing the name of Fort Bragg. Noyo seems like a logical choice, as it already shares the city's zip code.

For years, I have been embarrassed by that name and think the time has come to change it. If we do not, we will be one of the few Confederate landmarks that chooses to keep its associations with a historical figure with a tawdry, traitorous past and we will be guilty by association.

I applaud you for considering this, and do hope the voters decide to align on the right side of history.

Lily "Tigerlily" Jones
Mendocino

June 18, 2020

I have lived in the City of Fort Bragg, and presently live approximately two miles outside city limits. I work in the City, recreate in the City, and shop in the City. I am in favor of the Council placing a measure on the ballot to rename the City.

I have heard concerns that a ballot measure would lead to unnecessary controversy and division. I am not fearful that a ballot measure will divide the community. However, I do believe that it would force difficult conversations between friends, family members and coworkers that are important and necessary for us to learn from each other and hear from others with opinions that are different than our own. I am disappointed that some feel our community is unable to have this discussion civilly.

Some have stated that it isn't Council's responsibility to add the ballot measure, and that it should come from the community. Placing the measure on the ballot is not an endorsement of a name change, nor is it a defense of the current name. In my opinion, it would show leadership by encouraging an important community-wide conversation, and it would ultimately allow the citizens of the City to determine the best path forward.

Anonymous,

95437 zip code

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2020

**CITY OF FORT BRAGG
CITY CLERK**

June 18, 2020

Fort Bragg City Council,

As a 20+ year resident of Fort Bragg I am in favor of the Council placing a measure on the ballot to rename the City. I feel that a vote is the only true way of letting the people choose.

Anonymous,

City Limits Resident

RECEIVED
JUN 18 2020
CITY OF FORT BRAGG
CITY CLERK

Lemos, June

From: Silver <silvermx@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 5:06 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

Hi, I have lived here since 1972. I have always disliked the name Ft Bragg as it is not the military base, it is not a Fort and to Bragg is a negative personality trait. It lacks charm and it is named after a confederate so there is nothing redeeming about it.

I think it would be lovely and timely to change the name to Noyo Harbor or something along those lines.. it sounds like a positive place to visit, live in and echoes the beauty of the shoreline and the harbor.. it would be a terrific change and I hope this happens. Silver Mangini, Mendocino business owner since 1988. thank you!

Lemos, June

From: ryanne martell <ryannemac@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 5:27 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: In support of Fort Bragg name change

Hi there,

I would like to voice my support in changing the name of Fort Bragg. Let's show our community, children & beyond that we can make a difference- even if it is a small town.

I think Noyo is beautiful, historically accurate and represents our sweet town and community well.

Thank you!
Ryanne

Lemos, June

From: HelpDesk
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:38 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FW: COVID PROTECTION

From: Dr Richard Louis Miller [mailto:drrichardlmiller@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:37 AM
To: HelpDesk <HelpDesk@fortbragg.com>
Subject: COVID PROTECTION

Dear Honorable Fort Bragg City Council:

In considering the question of changing the name of Fort Bragg:

Imagine how each of you would feel, emotionally, if the city you lived in, was named after a man who was known to have done extremely terrible things to your ancestors.

Out of respect for the descendents of those brutalized by Braxton Bragg, and others whose ancestors were brutalized by racists, it is imperative that we join those around our great country who are bringing their city's names into our 21st century cultural values.

We can honor the past, while making amends for past atrocities and move into the present, all at the same time;.

I trust you will lead us on our path towards acting like "all men are created equal".

Wishing each of you, your families, and our soon to be COVID tourist besieged community, continued good health,

Richard

*PS: We trust you are doing everything in your power to bring the essential Test and Contact Tracing to our coastal community.

Richard Louis Miller, M.A., Ph.D.
Clinical Psychology
Wikipedia: Dr Richard Louis Miller
Wikipedia: Wilbur Hot Springs
PsychedelicMedicineBook.com
MindBodyHealthPolitics.org
Psychepedia.org

*What you leave behind is not what assets you accumulated,
but what is woven into the lives of others*

Lemos, June

From: jude cchange.org <jude@cchange.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:55 AM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Miller, Tabatha
Subject: Re: Send in your letters ASAP 6/22/2020 City Council Comments on Name Change Process for Fort Bragg

Dear Honorable Fort Bragg City officials:

I am writing in support of changing the name of our wonderful city to Noyo Harbor or Noyo. I am in agreement with the case made by Mary Rose Kaczorowski and appreciate her thorough research into the history as well as her suggestion for flexibility for businesses that don't choose to change their name and for pressing big lumber to help pay for the name change.

We are in an unprecedented period of history in which small changes like removal of Confederate statues, name changes, removal of Confederate flags, etc -- these are all contributing to a much bigger change of popular consciousness in a belated, but welcome, tribute to true democracy. A true democracy owns its past and corrects the present in order to build a just and equal future for ALL.

We ALL benefit from a society in which the pie grows larger with the inclusion of the vast and varied talents of people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ folks, and all who have been shut out, diminished, and disenfranchised in so many ways.

Now is the time to take our place with local governments across the country who are choosing democratic values over separation, hate, and an "us vs them" outlook, so continually perpetuated by the current sitting president.

Thank you for thoughtfully considering the benefits of changing our city's name and for taking the time to read this.

Respectfully,

Jude Thilman

*Jude Thilman
dragonflywellness.org
PO Box 1274
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
c 415.517.2833*

From: Redwood Mary <redwoodmary@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:30 PM

To: Mary Rose Kaczorowski <mrkaczorowski@gmail.com>

Subject: Send in your letters ASAP 6/22/2020 City Council Comments on Name Change Process for Fort Bragg

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR LETTERS ASAP

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mary Rose Kaczorowski** <mrkaczorowski@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jun 21, 2020 at 9:03 PM

Subject: Monday 6/22/2020 City Council Comments on Name Change Process for Fort Bragg

To: Lemos, June <jlemos@fortbragg.com>

Cc: Jessica Morsell-Haye <jmorsellhayefortbragg.com>, Tess Albin-Smith <Talbinsmith@fortbragg.com>,

Lindy Peters <LPeters2@fortbragg.com>, Will Lee <Wlee@fortbragg.com>, Bernie Norvell

<bnorvell@mcn.org>, Miller, Tabatha <tmiller@fortbragg.com>

Dear Fort Bragg City Council,

As a longtime resident of the city, I urge you to commit to a process of the re-branding and changing the name of Fort Bragg. As a Tourist destination, Fort Bragg would benefit from a more fitting name Noyo or even Noyo Harbor.

Most important the Tribal people who are still here need to be part of this discussion and this would be a tiny reparation that could be offered for the horrific damage that was done here to their ancestors and for the stealing of their lands.

The new coastal trail has signage that refers to what happen to our native peoples here.

This area was a series of small Pomo villages with the closest to Fort Bragg land named Kah-la-deh-mun which means "Surrounded by Trees." The indigenous villages are gone and Fort Bragg is in essence one giant clear cut!

For many outside of the area Ft. Bragg is confused with Fort Bragg North Carolina. I have also encountered this in several business transactions.

Outsiders telling us what to do?

It was outsiders who came to occupy these aboriginal lands and unabashedly removed or massacred the native peoples. This area was named by an outsider after an outsider!

The Cost?

All the money spent on numerous websites and promoting Fort Bragg via Visit Fort Bragg could have been spent on this name change long ago.

Georgia Pacific and Lyme Timber should pony up some of the \$\$'s for this change. Their corporate extraction left Fort Bragg poorer while they bagged the profits. Consider getting the Timber Yield Tax increased and sent back to Fort Bragg to help pay for this process.

Re-allocate a percentage of the Transit Occupancy tax to support this change.

Signs, websites, re-ordering of stationary, business cards always need to be updated and replaced regularly; none of which needs to be completed immediately. This can be done over time.

Businesses with "Fort Bragg" in their names don't need to change that if they don't want to.

Funds can be raised from the public for things like the "Welcome to Noyo" sign. We would not be the first city to ever change its name. These problems have been solved by others and we can solve them here.

WHY Keep the name of a traitor & slave owner?

The time has come to change the name of this town named for a slave owner, who was a traitor to the U.S. as Confederate General who fought against the U.S. Union Army. Why in the world would we want to justify keeping the name of Bragg who is generally considered among the worst generals of the Civil War. Bragg has a generally poor reputation.

Interestingly "Bragg" is a ghost town in Hardin County, Texas, in the Big Thicket forest area of the southeastern part of the state. Sometimes referred to as "Bragg Station."

Also named after the Confederate general Braxton Bragg, this town was built around an important railroad junction installed by the Santa Fe Railroad system in 1902. The railroad line transported lumber and other supplies servicing the oil industry near Beaumont, Texas.

Several years later, the local industry would begin to shift its shipping lanes and abandon the railroad. In addition to the relocation of oilfield workers into other communities, the rail line extending from Bragg Station south to the small community of Saratoga was dismantled in 1934.

My Best Regards,

**Mary Rose Kaczorowski,
PO Box 1684
Ft. Bragg CA 95437**

--

In solidarity with Mother Earth and all her creatures-

Redwood Mary

redwoodmary [at][gmail.com](mailto:redwoodmary@gmail.com)

[mrkaczorowski \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:mrkaczorowski@gmail.com)

Lemos, June

From: Amy MCN <awynn@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:53 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City Council meeting 6/22, Item 8A; Support changing the name of Fort Bragg

Dear City Council,

I support putting a Measure before the Voters to change the name of the City from Fort Bragg to a name (or names) proposed as the result of a Citizen Committee comprised of residents of the City and County who use Fort Bragg as their address and identity. The Committee would best include members of all affected cultures, most significantly - if they so choose - local tribal representatives.

If the tribal representatives are supportive, my preference would be to change the name to a name of significance to the local tribes, whether it be of a village located here prior to occupation (which we have since wiped out), or a tribal name newly created to reflect our current effort to heal.

Would those of us who live in Fort Bragg outside of City Limits be able to vote on this matter through a companion measure presented by the County? I've had my business in the City for 15 years; I've lived in Fort Bragg outside of City limits for 15 years. While that is by no means a lifetime, this community has my heart.

Change is difficult, but often necessary. If we are to continue to improve as humans, in humanity, then symbolic change such as renaming our City from a name of injury to one of pride is essential. The discomfort of the transition is worth the healing.

In companionship to symbolism, we must also change the structure of our ways in all areas where we have the capacity to do harm. One of the first steps is presented to City Council in Item 8b, which I also support: adopting a hiring policy for Police Officers to disqualify any applicant based on prior acts of misconduct.

Thank you for your compassion for all members of our community.

All the best,
Amy Wynn
Fort Bragg, CA

Lemos, June

From: Carolyn Glubok <cglubok@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:42 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Re: Yes, let's change the name of Fort Bragg

I forgot to sign off, but my name is Carolyn Glubok.

On Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 9:41 AM Carolyn Glubok <cglubok@gmail.com> wrote:

I have lived in Fort Bragg for 30 years, I raised my children here, and I feel fortunate that this place is my home. I am in favor of changing the name of our city to better reflect our character.

Lemos, June

From: Leslie King <leslienassanking@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:40 AM
To: Lemos, June; repley@advocate-news.com
Subject: Changing Fort Bragg's name

Greetings, we are frequent visitors and lovers of the Mendocino coast area. We believe it is time to change the name of the town Ft Bragg as it has become common knowledge that Bragg was a slave owner and white supremacist.

Nothing can change the beauty and history of this town itself, a name change will not sever the ties with it's unique past. It will, however, create an opportunity for the town to create a more positive and inclusive identity.

In many places of California these issues have been managed without becoming contentious. It is important that Ft Bragg leaders manage a discussion in a constructive manner, as a matter of pride for the town and allow citizens to vote on this important issue.

Thank you, Leslie King

Lemos, June

From: Jessica Curl Rose <jessicacurlrose@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:00 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg Name Change

City Council Members:

I grew up here on the Coast and returned to raise my family and start my business here. I am in support of a name change for Fort Bragg. It has always been a point of sadness, confusion, an embarrassment that Fort Bragg continues to wear the name of a Confederate General. A name change would be seen by current residents and the world outside of our community as a move forward.

In 2015, members of the California Legislative Black Caucus petitioned Fort Bragg to change its name due to Braxton Bragg's links to the Confederacy. The cities lack of interest in this did not paint our community in a positive light to the outside world. Now is a great time to join the movement that is happening all around the world, and leave attachments to old racist sentiments behind us. This is an opportunity to present Fort Bragg as an inclusive place with an informed and caring population. I believe that Fort Bragg has been moving that direction, a name change shows a commitment to those changes.

Germany has done a lot of work on this front, renaming streets, towns and public spaces to remove Nazi general's names. German friends of mine are always surprised to see how passionate Americans are to respect symbols of the Confederacy and slavery, which the whole world sees for what it is, a brutally violent and inhuman part of our country's history.

Residence's concerns about the inconvenience could instead be seen as an opportunity to commit to a better future for Fort Bragg. I have heard people complain about the need to change business names and signage. I grew up and have lived in Elk, California. Elk used to be named Greenwood. If you are familiar with Elk, then you know that the school is 'The Greenwood School', and the Community Center is the 'Greenwood Community Center.' There are many examples of businesses which have kept the name Greenwood. If someone asks, we just explain that our name used to be Greenwood.

In the case of Fort Bragg with the significance of the name evoking such unpleasant times, values, and some of the worst aspects of human behaviour, it is sad that inconvenience is even mentioned. I would love to change my business name or business cards that bear the name of Braxton Bragg who was so hated throughout his life, both by his own men and the many groups of people his violence was directed towards. Wouldn't it be great to have a name everyone could be proud of instead of a name that makes people cringe?

Thank you.

Jessica Curl Rose

Lemos, June

From: Helen Van Gelder <helenvg2@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

Message for tonight's City Council meeting:

I agree that Fort Bragg should change its name to sever our connection with General Braxton Bragg.

I like Noyo Harbor or other name including Noyo, to recognize and honor the original settlers here.

Helen L. Van Gelder
Fort Bragg city resident

Lemos, June

From: Robert Bushansky <erb@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:16 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Tonight's City Council Meeting

Hi June,

For health safety reasons I won't be attending tonight's meeting. I would like everyone to know that the petition to Change the Name From Fort Bragg to anything more appropriate has 1324 names as of 10:00 AM today. The U S military has 10 Forts named after Confederate Generals and are going to change the names of all of them. It is not just the names that are important but what the names of racists and traitors mean to the people most harmed by honoring the men who represent centuries of slavery and oppression of indigenous people and people of color. Erase the name but can you ever erase the pain and suffering endured by their dependents? Changing the name is a start.

My wife, Meg Courtney and I started this petition only 10 days ago to start a conversation. I think that we have done that. Thank you to the 1324 people who have signed.

Bob Bushansky
Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Paula Bishop Pociecha <soul-full@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:15 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Comments on name change for City Council meeting 6/22

Dear City Council Members,

As a new, financially and energetically contributing resident to Fort Bragg (on our 8th year here), I strongly support the move towards opening up conversations regarding the town's current name, history and potential forward movement to a new identity that expresses the change in industry and consciousness reflective of the current cultural movement.

There is no need to erase the history of Fort Bragg, and many business entities and organizations can retain the name if they choose, as many did with "Noyo" previously. However, it is time to shift with the current needs, which is to attract tourism and be a ground breaker in the movement towards conscious awareness of who and what we honor in our history. Time to add a new chapter to the identity of this town.

I personally support changing every natural and geographic location from being named after humans, to being named for their natural characteristics, as did the aboriginal peoples. When we name nature after humans in continues the mind set that we own it and can exploit it and abuse it to our wildest desires. This has certainly been true of the historic industry of this town. While it gave much to society, it did so at a great cost to our true home. We are seeing how this mindset will lead to our eventual demise. By renaming towns and mountains and parks and all places of nature back to nature names, we acknowledge the we are but guests and caretakers in this world who existed billions of years before humans ever came on the planet. It can be the first steps in true healing of our souls' our culture and our planet.

I call for the aboriginal people to be given respect and control of the conversational process and reparations in creating a new identity for this chapter of the town of Fort Bragg. When there is an intentional focus of reparation and healing, we can all finally move forward together.

Thank you for your consideration and deep commitment to the future of this community.

Sincerely,
Paula Pociecha

"Hatred can be overcome only by love."--Gandhi

Lemos, June

From: autumn faber <ajfabu@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: In Support Of The Fort Bragg Name Change

On behalf of
MendoCoast BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color)

We demand the forming of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name. We neither support the Council putting it on the November ballot nor a Citizens' Initiative.

Racial Justice/Civil Rights should not be put to a vote for multiple reasons. First, it's just not right to put up such an issue to the People to vote. Two, any ballot initiative would likely lose along racial lines: the Black and Aboriginal folks number too few to win it, and the White and Latinx allies too few to fairly challenge that gap. Three, it puts the burden to run a likely futile campaign to convince people to do the right thing on people who already have enough on their plates fighting for Racial Justice on a chronic and ongoing daily basis. Our elected leaders must show leadership by actually leading on issues like this, not just passing the buck to the voters.

The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power.

The original military installation ultimately called Fort Bragg was intended to contain and violently control the Native population well before the Civil War or Bragg was a Confederate General.

The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC.

The issue of Racial Justice adversely affects, obviously, the BIPOC more than anyone else. This means that they should be taking the lead on this issue.

All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend.

BIPOC's time is taken for free all the time for Racial Justice work. The City must compensate them for their time, expertise, experience, and burden.

The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants.

The City needs to hear this discussion.

The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name.

This could be changing the name, and if so what to, as well as keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).

The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice.

This can't just be about changing a name. The workshops will happen to ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the deeper issues related to greater racial justice.

The Task Force proceedings must be recorded.

This is to ensure accountability as well as record them as educational resources for the future.

Lemos, June

From: Bernie Norvell <bnorvell@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:23 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Time to change the name

Bernie Norvell
NORVELLS PAINT AND GARAGE DOORS.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Megan Caron <megancaroon27@gmail.com>
Date: June 22, 2020 at 9:43:19 AM PDT
To: bnorvell@fortbragg.com, talbinsmith@fortbragg.com, jmorsellhay@fortbragg.com, LPeters@fortbragg.com, cityclerk@fortbragg.com, wlee@fortbragg.com
Subject: Time to change the name

To Our Council Members,

Unfortunately the reoccurring issue of Fort Bragg's name change will not be going away anytime soon. It has now become an extremely politically divisive issue and we need to make some tough decisions. So while the world changes and the rest of the world is watching, we must decide what side of history we will align ourselves with.

Keeping the name will simply maintain our affiliation with the confederacy. Is this how we want to be identified? How does that appear to people of color? especially for a community that sees itself as a diverse one?. There may possibly be some unforeseen consequences if we continue to honor some racist relic of the past. By continuing our confederate affiliation we are sounding a dog whistle that will be heard by white supremists and could potentially summon more racists to our community. It will be celebrated by them and they will come here in solidarity.

A valid concern is the overall cost to the community, how will it be paid for? this needs much consideration but should not be the reason to avoid positive change.

The argument to keep it is unsubstantial.

"its just a name, it doesn't really matter"

No, it does matter. Do you see any German towns named Goebbelsstein? no you do not, and no one there forgot their history.

- "our History!, our heritage!, our culture!"

One does not lose these things in a name change, its all still there. The people of Greenwood maintained all of their fond memories when people began to call it Elk. Change is a natural occurrence. No one will be losing their history here other than Braxton Bragg.

It does not change the past, it changes the future.

My family has been here for 5 generations and the name Fort Bragg really never made sense to me, it seems like a haphazardly given name from an era where they were simply tossing out names to everything. Growing up here there was always a stigma attached to this town and I firmly believe its name was part of the cause. Now

that I am fully aware of our history, the name makes me very uncomfortable with what it represents and it should make everyone uncomfortable.

How will we be perceived when we are the last town clinging to some relic of the confederacy?

Financially it may be an inconvenient time, but we all know that nothing happens overnight, especially here.

This is not a loss of history, it is a reclamation of history.

Our community has done some incredible things, lets maintain that tradition and remove ourselves from this confederate affiliation.

Thank you,

Megan Caron

Ben Tuke

Ft Bragg

Email correspondence with the City of Fort Bragg (and attachments, if any) may be subject to the California Public Records Act, and as such may therefore be subject to public disclosure unless otherwise exempt under the Act.

Lemos, June

From: Norah Duffy <norahsduffy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Letter in Support of Fort Bragg Name Change
Attachments: Letter in Support of FB Name Change.pdf

Hello,

Please consider the attached letter in support of the Fort Bragg name change.

Thank you,
Norah Duffy

June 19, 2020

Dear Fort Bragg City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for changing the name of the Fort Bragg to one that is not complicit in the darkest aspect of American history. Now is the time to take action to show that all members of the community are valued by, and safe in, this city.

While I am a resident of the Bay Area, I have deep family ties to the area. My siblings and I worked summers here on and off growing up, and I visit my family and friends regularly. I have come to know the community, and I understand that Fort Bragg, like the rest of the United States, has a deep political divide. However, racism is not a political issue.

I hope that the City Council will not give undue weight to a vocal minority of residents that would like to see this tradition of complicity continue. If you take this historic action, you will find overwhelming support from the citizens of Fort Bragg, the Bay Area, and beyond.

Sincerely,

Norah Duffy, CAE
3414 Santa Clara Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94531

Lemos, June

From: Daniel Zenefski <danielzenefskifurniture@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:27 AM
To: Lemos, June

To whom it may concern,

We demand the forming of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name. We neither support the Council putting it on the November ballot nor a Citizens' Initiative.

Racial Justice/Civil Rights should not be put to a vote for multiple reasons. First, it's just not right to put up such an issue to the People to vote. Two, any ballot initiative would likely lose along racial lines: the Black and Aboriginal folks number too few to win it, and the White and Latinx allies too few to fairly challenge that gap. Three, it puts the burden to run a likely futile campaign to convince people to do the right thing on people who already have enough on their plates fighting for Racial Justice on a chronic and ongoing daily basis. Our elected leaders must show leadership by actually leading on issues like this, not just passing the buck to the voters.

The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power.

The original military installation ultimately called Fort Bragg was intended to contain and violently control the Native population well before the Civil War or Bragg was a Confederate General.

The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC.

The issue of Racial Justice adversely affects, obviously, the BIPOC more than anyone else. This means that they should be taking the lead on this issue.

All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend.

BIPOC's time is taken for free all the time for Racial Justice work. The City must compensate them for their time, expertise, experience, and burden.

The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants.

The City needs to hear this discussion.

The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name.

This could be changing the name, and if so what to, as well as keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).

The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice.

This can't just be about changing a name. The workshops will happen to ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the deeper issues related to greater racial justice.

The Task Force proceedings must be recorded.

This is to ensure accountability as well as record them as educational resources for the future.

Sincerely,
Daniel Zenefski

Lemos, June

From: David Pugh <dpugh@mindspring.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:36 AM
To: Lemos, June; repley@advocate-news.com
Cc: george reinhardt
Subject: Fort Bragg name-change

Dear Fort Bragg City Clerk and The Advocate,

I have a few thoughts on the current initiative to change the name of your town. The name of this Confederate general and slaveholder appears on Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the home of the 82nd Airborne Division.

There are current initiatives to rename Fort Bragg, Fort Hood, Texas, Fort Benning, Georgia, and other major bases in the South that were named after Confederate generals and slaveholders with the objective of keeping white supremacy and the "lost cause" alive.

You would be in good company if you adopted a name for your town that you can be proud of.

David Pugh, a teacher in New York City

Lemos, June

From: Yolanda Fletcher <byfletcher@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change for Fort Bragg

Dear City Clerk Lemos,

I am writing in support of changing Fort Bragg's name. I live in Cleone, just north of the City of Fort Bragg. I am a homeowner and taxpayer, and unfortunately, would be unable to vote on this issue. Here's why I favor a name change:

- The current name does not evoke significant events in the history, culture, or physical location of our town. It was dubbed "Fort Bragg" on the whim of a soldier, Horatio Gates Gibson, to honor a less-than-stellar commanding officer. It lacks context, according to a must read op ed by John Diaz, SF Chronicle <https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/diaz/article/An-overdue-reckoning-on-Confederate-icons-15353712.php>. By now the dubious history of Braxton Bragg is well known, so I won't belabor the fine points of his biography. Whether you grew up in beautiful Fort Bragg, or moved here more recently (as I have), there is no historical, emotional, or cultural resonance to the name Braxton Bragg in this town. (Unless you consider the confederate flag in the window of one of my neighbors here in Cleone.)
- This is a beautiful and timely opportunity for the citizens of Fort Bragg to abandon the negative aura of Braxton Bragg (which includes human enslavement, Native American suppression, and general ineptitude) and embrace a positive identity that truly reflects the gorgeous, welcoming presence of this special place.

I urge you to support putting this issue on the ballot and endeavor to educate the citizenry about the very positive aspects of this change. This issue is not going to magically disappear. Our town has made appearances in newspapers and media around the country, and surely the world is watching as we consider this matter. Conservative organizations like the United States military are in favor of changing the names of their bases, so this is hardly radical act. As to the expense of such a change, I believe we can bear it - a name change can be phased in; the name "Fort Bragg" will always be with us, but not as our primary identity. I believe that our bread and butter economy, tourism, will be well served by this positive act, making our town an even more inclusive, welcoming, and comfortable place to visit.

Thank you for your consideration,

Yolanda B. Fletcher
32688 Mill Creek Drive
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: LIZ SMETHURST <lizzie95437@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:39 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: In favor of name change!

City Council Members:

As a longtime resident of the city, I urge you to commit to a process of changing the city's name.

It's the right thing to do. The name "Fort Bragg" commemorates a relatively brief period in the history of this place, and it's a period that should be remembered, but not honored. This area has a long history that predates the Fort and we could reflect that, with a Native name. Or it could be a name based on the natural beauty of this precious spot, with its valuable harbor. Local Indigenous residents should be deeply involved in the process of choosing a new name, if they are willing.

It's also the pragmatic thing to do. The current name doesn't enhance our future as a tourist destination. In fact, every time we consider making a change -- and then fail to do so -- we damage our reputation for tourism.

Finally, concerns about cost are valid, but surmountable. We can commit to a process without rushing that process. Signs, websites, and supplies all need to be updated and replaced regularly; none of this needs to be completed immediately. Businesses with "Fort Bragg" in their names don't need to change that if they don't want to. And funds can be raised from the public for things like the "Welcome to Fort Bragg" sign. We would not be the first city to ever change its name. These problems have been solved by others and we can solve them here.

Thank you Liz Smethurst

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:17 AM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Fort Bragg Renaming

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Terry Brooks <terrydean099@gmail.com>
Date: June 21, 2020 at 3:31:13 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Fort Bragg Renaming

We have been in a crisis in our country with race relations.

I suggest the City of Fort Bragg be renamed as Fort Rosecrans

Lemos, June

From: Rosalind Bresnahan <rosalind568@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:00 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: town name change

As a Californian, I want our state to be a leader in rectifying historical injustices. It is offensive for any town to be named after a white supremacist. Please find a more inspirational name for your town.

Respectfully,

Rosalind Bresnahan

500 Edgerton Dr., San Bernardino, CA 92405

Lemos, June

From: John Gallo <john.gallo@consbio.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:05 AM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Miller, Tabatha
Subject: Amended Comment: Still NO to November Ballot Measure, but now: YES to Citizens Commission, with recommendations

Hello City Council,

It has come to my attention that trying to resolve the name change issue on a ballot even next year may be problematic. It is probably better to engage an independent commission to determine this question. Regardless, I still think we should NOT have the name change issue on the November ballot. If we do that now, we are going to further divide our community rather than bring us all together. The likelihood is rising that the virus is just one of several major threats facing our community in the months/years ahead. We need to stay united. So, I'd like to offer an amendment to my proposed motion yesterday:

1) I encourage you to resolve to address the Fort Bragg name-change question in a patient, deliberate, transparent, and fair manner. **This means NOT having it on the ballot this November, above all else.**

2) Secondly, I think this should start with Option 4 of your possible actions, **establish a Citizens Commission, as long as the following recommendations are met.**

Recommendations:

- The first mandate of the Commission is to recommend a path forward to the City Council, the second mandate is to monitor that path forward to provide periodic reports and advice.
- The process for determining the Commission members also needs to be transparent, and membership needs to include a fair and balanced diversity of perspectives.
 - Commission members need to have a demonstrated ability to work well and calmly with others in tense situations.
 - The Sovereign Native Pomo need to have fair representation on the Commission
- All meetings of the Commission must be recorded
- The city needs to designate a staff person and council-member to attend, as observers that do not vote.
 - I recommend that City Manager Tabatha Miller and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye are asked first, and if they cannot commit to this then they are responsible for finding the people that will fill their role.
- Commission members also need to be compensated appropriately for their time, expertise, and experience.
 - They can be asked in their application what they would want for appropriate compensation.
- The City should contract an impartial Commission Facilitator that cannot vote on Commission matters.

Other Recommendations

- A balanced timeline: The Commission is convened for its first meeting by October 1st, and its first Task is to provide a recommended path forward to the City Council no later than March 1st.
- Regarding the Facilitator, their funding needs to be transparent, and they need to adhere to conflict of interest protocols. Because of this, the Facilitator should not be a city employee, but rather a contractor.
- The Sovereign Native Pomo should have some sort of veto power on an alternate city name, if an alternate is the route chosen, maybe like the veto power of the President of the US.

Thank you,

John A.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John Gallo** <john.gallo@consbio.org>

Date: Sun, Jun 21, 2020 at 3:19 PM

Subject: Please have the name change vote on the ballot, but next year, not this year. Here is why:

To: June Lemos <JLemos@fortbragg.com>

Cc: Tabatha Miller <tmiller@fortbragg.com>

<snip>

To City Council,

I understand the importance of changing the name of Fort Bragg to something else. I also see some very uncertain times ahead in the near future, especially until there is a good vaccine available to the coronavirus. One of the best ways to prepare for uncertainty is to work together to build resilience, the ability to bounce back after being hit... and getting hit again, and so on. The hit could be a power shutoff and a coronavirus surge, it could be a second wave of the virus that was much bigger than the first, it could be a fire, economic downturn, or worse, or some combination of these. Yeah, some of these are less likely than others, but uncertainty is uncertainty.

For these reasons, I encourage you to have the Fort Bragg name change issue on a ballot, but next year, not this November.

If we have it this year, the community will get even more divided and angry with each other, at a time where we need to all be coming together as much as possible. It will also consume tons of collective time that we can all be spending preparing for the Winter ahead, which could be very bleak.

The name change ballot measure is very important. But so is timing. I think that we have a very rough ride ahead, and it will benefit all sides if we are as ready for it as possible. Lets ride out the storm of the winter and then address this very important issue next year.

Thank You,

John A. Gallo, Ph.D.

Lemos, June

From: Lynn Kiesewetter <lynnkie@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:14 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Re: Fort Bragg name change- and November ballot

To All it May Concern,

I would like to go on record as favoring a place in our upcoming election for the citizens to decide if they would like to change the name of Fort Bragg to something less controversial.

While I personally favor changing the name to Noyo, the real issue is, I think, letting it be up to the constituency to decide. This is not something that the City Counsel ought to take upon themselves, ignore, or delay. Whatever our individual politics, I think we can all agree that it should be up to the people who live here to decide on what to call this town.

Lynn Kiesewetter

247 Minnesota Ave.

Fort Bragg, (for the moment), CA

Lemos, June

From: John Newstead <john@newstead.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: In favor of name change for Fort Bragg

I am very much in favor of the name change. I have lived in Mendocino for over 20 years and have always thought Noyo was a better name.

John Newstead

Lemos, June

From: Karen <nerak@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 12:01 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change

I support an exploration into changing the name of Fort Bragg. I don't think our town should be named for a confederate general. I would like to see the name changed to something that does not celebrate a painful part of our nation's history. Thank you.

Karen Rakofsky

Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: kYra Dear <kyradear@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: town hall name change meeting

Please see below my statement in support of the following Demands and Explanations for the City Council meeting on Monday, June 22 at 6pm by MendoCoast BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color).

If these requests cannot be met in this meeting since the agenda has been set, we request these demands be met in the Fort Bragg City Council meeting immediately following the June 22 meeting.

- Native folk must get 15 minutes to speak on this issue, before anyone else.
- Because the first people harmed by Fort Bragg were the Aboriginals, it is imperative that they be given the lead on this issue. Giving them the lead on this issue starts with giving them more time to, as a Sovereign Nation, open the Public Comment on this issue with a block statement or presentation of their choosing.
- We demand the forming of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name. We neither support the Council putting it on the November ballot nor a Citizens' Initiative.
- Racial Justice/Civil Rights should not be put to a vote for multiple reasons.
 - First, it's just not right to put up such an issue to the People to vote.
 - Two, any ballot initiative would likely lose along racial lines: the Black and Aboriginal folks number too few to win it, and the White and Latinx allies too few to fairly challenge that gap.
 - Three, it puts the burden to run a likely futile campaign to convince people to do the right thing on people who already have enough on their plates fighting for Racial Justice on a chronic and ongoing daily basis. Our elected leaders must show leadership by actually leading on issues like this, not just passing the buck to the voters.
- The original military installation ultimately called Fort Bragg was intended to contain and violently control the Native population well before the Civil War or Bragg was a Confederate General.
- A task force needs to be created for the renaming that is approved by the City Council (break)
- The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC. (break)
 - The issue of Racial Justice adversely affects the BIPOC more than anyone else. This means that they should be taking the lead on this issue. (break)
- All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend. (break)
 - BIPOC's time is taken for free all the time for Racial Justice work. The City must compensate them for their time, expertise, experience, and burden. (break)...
- The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants.
- The discussion needs to be made public and accessible.
- The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name.
- This could be changing the name, and if so what to, as well as keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).
- The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice.
 - This changing of the name has deeper meaning. The workshops will ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the real issues related to local racial justice efforts.
- The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power.
- The Task Force proceedings must be recorded.

- to ensure accountability as well as educational resources for the future.

Below is my statement in support of the Demands and Explanations for City Council meeting by MendoCoast BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color).

My great grandfather's brother, Horace Milliken. My great grandfather was Dr. James Milliken of Mendocino. You can see his sister's name, Eva, in the list of wives of the Rice family patriarchy in the Rice plot in the Little River Cemetery. She married James Bush Rice, who's house is still standing as a historic site behind the Little River Museum.

Horace Milliken did many amazing and good things to establish a working community and booming economy in the town of Fort Bragg in the early, not only bringing fresh drinking water from a spring on his own land to every white home, but proving the long enduring nature of redwood as he used it to pipe the flow.

There are few stories about Indigenous peoples. The Mendocino War of 1859-1860, that slaughtered the Indigenous people because they insisted to live as they had for millennia and not by the dictates of white men, had already happened. So the land Horace Milliken bought near Pudding Creek in 1889, where he began the waterworks for the town of Fort Bragg was most likely *acquired* by the original *owner* by driving off the people who were living there, eventually killed, or if lucky survived the death marches inland of Indigenous peoples by white militia. There were many Yuki, however, still trying to live by their own culture and terms on the coast through 1910. Which means Horace Miliken was not only complicit in the continued genocide and death marches, but most likely offered support.

Yet the burden of these histories that are suppressed, never told, and buried, histories forgotten by the dominant white community—that has enjoyed the beautiful coast, its rich and diverse resource stock from forests to the seas for every generation since—is carried by the grandchildren, great grandchildren and all relatives of local Indigenous survivors. It is their explicit lived history and experience, not a sports game loss, but a people, their language, the land, the resources from forests to sea, their culture taken. The survivors displaced, enslaved, and forced to conform to white culture. Where would each of us white folks be today if that were our grand parents history? And where would that leave our parents? Us? Where would we be at socio economically?

Fort Bragg has a rare opportunity to begin the process of taking responsibility for the genocidal legacy that we white folks have benefited from as a community by changing the name of the town. Fort Bragg finally has a mayor, [#MayorWillLee](#), who is acknowledging this history and the need to take responsibility for the legacy this community has inherited by focusing on the name change from a confederate, genocidal man. May this be an opportunity for people who actually care about the community AS A WHOLE. Who want to end the cycle of white supremacy—renaming is the first step to educating. Hoping this will become a teach-in so that community members can learn what other community members deal with daily.

Thank you for forwarding this to the appropriate parties, Mayor Lee, and Fort Bragg City Council members

Kyra Rice

--X--

Lemos, June

From: Kira Wojack <kira.wojack@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:19 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Proposed Fort Bragg name change

As a lifelong resident of Fort Bragg, I wholeheartedly support changing the name of my city. My parents moved here 30 years ago, and my mother and I still live here (my father died last year). I attended Redwood, Dana Gray, Fort Bragg Middle School, and Fort Bragg High School. I have worked professionally to bring tourists to our town. I believe that it is time to move forward and embrace the future.

There are a few reasons why I think the time has come to change our name:

1. This is a great opportunity to rebrand and get on the map.

Most people outside of Mendocino County seem to think Fort Bragg is an army base, and they have no idea where it is. Or they confuse it with Fort Ross. There are better names out there for our little coastal city. If we want to promote tourism, changing the name will have short-term costs that are outweighed by the long-term benefits.

2. It's immoral to commemorate people, even unintentionally, who committed atrocities.

In most countries where monuments and cities were named for people who committed crimes against humanity, those places were renamed as soon as those perpetrators were defeated. While we can hold fond memories of Fort Bragg, if we keep our name, we're sending the message that our nostalgia is more important than the trauma of slavery and genocide.

In spite of living here all my life, I only learned of this town's brutal history a few years ago. While we were named before the Civil War, Fort Bragg was established to clear the area of its native inhabitants, and that's not a heritage we should want to cling to.

3. Our town is beautiful, and our name should reflect that.

"Fort Bragg" does not conjure images of a scenic coastal town. It sounds like a spartan, gray military base. Our city's name should reflect its beauty and charm. If we want to celebrate our history, we should consider acknowledging Noyo Harbor or the original inhabitants of our region.

Thank you,
Kira Wojack

Lemos, June

From: C Rowan Hawthorn <crowanhawthorn@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:59 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City Name Change

Greetings.

Change the city's name officially. Do all the physical bits gradually.

Why keep such a crummy part of the city's past in the present with such ludicrous name? The fort was a racist military installation named for a jerk— Bragg— who never even visited. The Bureau of Indian Affairs did illegal business with McPherson, then sold the land real cheap to Johnson. Seriously, it would make more sense to name the town "Johnson" or after his business partner, Calvin Stewart. He actually designed the town.

Personally, I like Noyo.

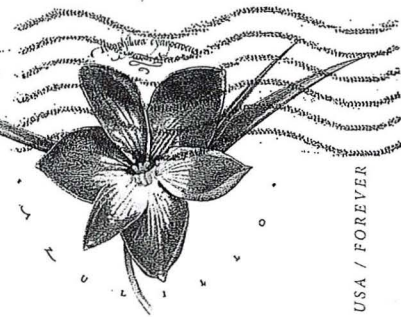
Let the Indigenous/Aboriginal people speak first. Listen to them. Their voices & history have been crushed & erased from the beginning. We need to INCLUDE them.

I'll vote if it's on the ballot but we really should just change it.

Thank you for your time.
Christi "Rowan" Hawthorn

SAN DIEGO CA 921

17 JUN 2020 PM 5:00



USA / FOREVER

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2020

CITY OF FORT BRAGG
CITY CLERK

City Council
Fort Bragg
City Hall
416 North Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

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6/17/20

Greetings!
I hope you will consider renaming your town with the name of a winner, not the name of a loser. Just imagine if your town had been named Fort Hitler or Fort Stalin, (There were Americans who happily did business with both, so it is not so far-fetched.)

Zw(Baby)

Lemos, June

From: allison farnham <afarnham07@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:42 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Comments for City Council Meeting 6/22

Hello,

My name is Allison Farnham & I am a resident of the Mendocino Coast, currently residing in Caspar. I would like to share a few of my thoughts around the name change of Fort Bragg.

- Creation of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name.
- The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power.
- The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC.
- All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend.
- The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants.
- The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name. This could be changing the name, and if so what to, as well as keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).
- The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice. This can't just be about changing a name. The workshops will happen to ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the deeper issues related to greater racial justice.
- The Task Force proceedings must be recorded.

Thank you kindly for receiving my words and opinion on this matter.

Allison Farnham

--

Permaculture Practitioner
Winona State University Graduate
Recreation & Tourism Major
Spanish Major

Lemos, June

From: liz newkirk <liznewkirk@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:35 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Coastal Resident in favor of name change

Afternoon June, please pass this on to our city council members. With gratitude, Liz Newkirk

City Council Members:

As a longtime resident of the Mendocino Coast, I urge you to commit to a process of changing the city's name.

It's the right thing to do. The name "Fort Bragg" commemorates a relatively brief period in the history of this place, and it's a period that should be remembered, but not honored. This area has a long history that predates the Fort and we could reflect that, with a Native name. Or it could be a name based on the natural beauty of this precious spot, with its valuable harbor. Local Indigenous residents should be deeply involved in the process of choosing a new name, if they are willing.

It's also the pragmatic thing to do. The current name doesn't enhance our future as a tourist destination. In fact, every time we consider making a change -- and then fail to do so -- we damage our reputation for tourism.

Finally, concerns about cost are valid, but surmountable. We can commit to a process without rushing that process. Signs, websites, and supplies all need to be updated and replaced regularly; none of this needs to be completed immediately. Businesses with "Fort Bragg" in their names don't need to change that if they don't want to. And funds can be raised from the public for things like the "Welcome to Fort Bragg" sign. We would not be the first city to ever change its name. These problems have been solved by others and we can solve them here.

Thank you.

Liz Newkirk

In support of the original text by Christie Olson Day

Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Paul Katzeff <pk@thanksgivingcoffee.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change public comment

June,

I wish these comments be included in the City Council records of the name change debate and discussion at the City Council Meeting tonight.

Let's be remembered by what we did, not by what we did not do.

All across the country communities are taking a critical look at symbols honoring the confederacy and it's icons, statues, monuments, the names of streets, parks, schools, cities, towns and villages. The Southern Poverty Law Center list of "Public Symbols of the Confereracy" lists our city as one of six active (not yet removed) symbols of the Confereracy left in California.

The US Military Command is on the verge of changing the name of its Military Base in North Carolina (Ft. Bragg). Will we, the citizens of the other Ft Bragg, have the simple decency to change our name from one that celebrates the violence and treason of a pro slavery Confederate General, to a name that more appropriately represents our values; our spirit of tolerance, diversity and kindness?

As the statues come down and monuments are removed, as the military base in North Carolina is about to have a name change, why don't we make the change before they do ? It is in our pioneering nature to do so. We became the first Certified Bee City on California, we can become the last city in California to celebrate Slavery in our city's name. There is no way we can allow ourselves to be proud of our city's name now, so let's change it to commemorate the moment and to say to America in a big way, that Black Lives Matter, that we respect the local history of our Native American residents, and of all People of Color in our community. Let's be on the right side of history and be darn proud of it.

Thanksgiving Coffee Company supports a bold action by our elected City Council to vote to change the name of our beloved city to a name

that celebrates the goodness of people, the beauty of our location and the values of our citizenry. What name shall we choose ?

Any name is better than Fort Bragg !

Paul Katzeff
CEO

Lemos, June

From: Todd Davies <davies@stanford.edu>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: +1 on changing Fort Bragg's name

As a past visitor to your otherwise lovely town, I strongly support changing its name.

Todd Davies (he/him or they/them)
email: davies@stanford.edu
web: web.stanford.edu/~davies

Current location:

Stanford House
65 High Street
Oxford OX1 4EL UK
phone: +44 (0)1865 253105

Main office:

Symbolic Systems Program
Stanford University
Stanford, CA, 94305-2150 USA
phone: +1 650 723 4091
office: 460-040C

Lemos, June

From: Morgan Dashko <morgan.dashko@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:32 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Public comment regarding name change

Hi June,

UI Wesley forwarded your email address in regard to the city council meeting regarding the Ft Bragg name change. If possible, I would like to add some words of support to public comment:

I support the measure to change the name of the city of Fort Bragg. As a member of this beautiful place, I believe that the integrity of our community should be reflected in the name we use for the space we call home. Fort Bragg was named after a Confederate general, during a period of time when stealing land from native peoples, and enslaving said beings, was socially acceptable. The wrongs of our ancestors are part of the story we weave for ourselves, including the names we use for our home and loved ones. It is time to rewrite our history to reflect our values, and progress as a community. A city that does not denounce a Confederate legacy, a legacy of racism and slavery, actively contributes to one. Given that the land was stolen from native people before Fort Bragg was ever named, their voices should be heard first and foremost.

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet, and so too would Fort Bragg--since it is not the name that makes us who we are, it is the integrity of the people, the values we speak and stand by, and the beauty of the land that connects us.

Thank you kindly,

Morgan Dashko

Lemos, June

From: rubinesq@mcn.org
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

To the mayor and city council members of Fort Bragg, California:

I was born in Fort Bragg in 1969. My older son was born in Fort Bragg in 1999. I have lived on the Mendocino Coast my whole life but never in the city of Fort Bragg.

Since I was a young child I have been ashamed of the origin of the name of the city of my birth. Whenever I have to fill out official paperwork with my or my son's place of birth I feel the great weight of the awful history of its namesake.

I request the name of the city is changed. I request you take into strong consideration the requests of people outside of city on this matter.

I urge you to be part of moving our county forward towards true racial equality, justice and reparations.

Yarrow S. Rubin
Elk

Lemos, June

From: George <george@mcn.org>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:40 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: It is time to change the name of our town.

Dear members of the City Council and City Staff,

I believe it is time to acknowledge the historical necessity of changing the name of our town. This is a “hot button” issue for many on either side of the question. I commend you for the sensitivity and thoughtfulness you are bringing to this difficult controversy.

The name must change, but the timing and the steps undertaken, to achieve the change, are open to careful community planning. I know you will do the right thing.

Yours,

George Reinhardt

Lemos, June

From: George <george@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 4:59 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: I want to be sure you receive this.

Honorable City Council and City Staff,

An old friend sent me this today. I find it intriguing. It shows the need for a task force to really open up this question to both an historical understanding and a discussion of the institutional racism that defines our nation. It is sometimes said that in the Civil War, the North won the War, but the South won the Peace. The way we deal with this contentious issue will define our community going forward.

Thanks for your consideration,

George Reinhardt

Hi George,

Sorry I'm late with this but had to find it. A historian wrote a letter to the June 18th SF Chron editor as follows:

"As a historian, I can understand people's desire to change the names of cities and military bases named after Confederate generals. They were traitors and do not deserve to be honored. However, we must recognize that changing the name of city involves a great deal of expense for everyone doing business there. Paperwork has to be changed, new letterhead and invoices have to be ordered, and vendors must be notified. We have to ask if now is the right time to force a new expense on businesses that have been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of Fort Bragg, there is another solution.

The City Council could pass a resolution proclaiming that their city is no longer named after Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg but is now named after a famous actor, Bernard Bragg. He was an actor, producer, director, playwright artist, author, and the first deaf professional performer in the United States. He also taught at the California School for the Deaf in Berkeley for 15 years. He died in Los Angeles in 2018 at the age of 90. What a wonderful example for people with disabilities that they do not have to be defined by their disabilities.

Robert Burke, Antioch"

I agree with Robert that this would be a perfect solution, as Fort Bragg wouldn't even have to incur the expense of a name change, only a legend change. Bernard Bragg. I don't see any obvious ties to the Fort Bragg area, but then Braxton didn't have any either.

Joann

Lemos, June

From: Hilary White <hilarbee@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy
Subject: 6/22/20 city council meeting, public comment, agenda item 8a

To the Fort Bragg City Council,

I was born and raised in Fort Bragg and am wholly in favor of changing the name of our town at this time. This is both a local and a national issue and while there are certainly practical concerns, it is fundamentally a question of values. Braxton Bragg is remembered as a confederate general who fought to defend the enslavement of human beings in America and his name should be relegated to historical texts and discussions of that heinous crime against humanity. Places are named after people to pay homage to them, to immortalize them, and this honor, though symbolic, is meaningful.

The message we send to the world and the message we internalize as residents of this community with the name Fort Bragg, is that it is acceptable to continue to honor the values of the confederacy and colonialism. It is not. Changing the name of our town (especially to an equally symbolic name, e.g. the name this place had before the land was stolen from the Pomo people) could be a very clear way of affirming and honoring a different set of values.

I have heard some argument that the nationwide demands to eliminate confederate iconography and place names do not apply to us because our name means something different, because this Fort Bragg was named prior to the civil war, before Bragg joined the confederacy. I don't think this argument is made in good faith but it is also incorrect. While the fort was established and named in 1857, the city itself was not officially incorporated and named until 1889, more than 20 years after the civil war was over. This means that the city's founders chose to keep the name of the military outpost for reasons that could have included its implied support of human enslavement.

However, even if we were to set aside any and all conversation about the confederacy, we cannot avoid our racist past. The entire purpose of the fort that our town was named after, was to control and discipline the indigenous people who were incarcerated here on the Mendocino reservation. The history of Fort Bragg, CA is one of state sanctioned, racially-motivated violence and land theft. This town's very own history should give us all the reason we need to change the name and have a robust conversation about the lasting legacy of racism in the context of the genocide that took place right here.

This is an opportunity for our community to do something aspirational, to redefine ourselves in the continuum of history, and make amends. Money may be in short supply in small communities like ours, especially now, but reducing this conversation to one of monetary concerns is a mistake. The moral injury sustained by everyone who lives and visits here by continuing to honor the legacies of slavery and colonialism is profound. Reparations are due and, done correctly, this could be one very small step in that process.

I want to be a part of a community that looks straight at our history and our present. We must collectively acknowledge that our ancestors did terrible things, recognize that our present is built on and perpetuates horrific injustices and ask how can we begin to build a more equitable and just society. I sincerely hope that we can count on you to lead this conversation in a meaningful way.

Thank you for your consideration.

Hilary White

Lemos, June

From: Mary Rose Kaczorowski <mrkaczorowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:03 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Miller, Tabatha
Subject: Monday 6/22/2020 City Council Comments on Name Change Process for Fort Bragg

Dear Fort Bragg City Council,

As a longtime resident of the city, I urge you to commit to a process of the re-branding and changing the name of Fort Bragg. As a Tourist destination, Fort Bragg would benefit from a more fitting name Noyo or even Noyo Harbor.

Most important the Tribal people who are still here need to be part of this discussion and this would be a tiny reparation that could be offered for the horrific damage that was done here to their ancestors and for the stealing of their lands.

The new coastal trail has signage that refers to what happen to our native peoples here.

This area was a series of small Pomo villages with the closest to Fort Bragg land named Kah-la-deh-mun which means “Surrounded by Trees.” The indigenous villages are gone and Fort Bragg is in essence one giant clear cut!

For many outside of the area Ft. Bragg is confused with Fort Bragg North Carolina. I have also encountered this in several business transactions.

Outsiders telling us what to do?

It was outsiders who came to occupy these aboriginal lands and unabashedly removed or massacred the native peoples. This area was named by an outsider after an outsider!

The Cost?

All the money spent on numerous websites and promoting Fort Bragg via Visit Fort Bragg could have been spent on this name change long ago.

Georgia Pacific and Lyme Timber should pony up some of the \$\$'s for this change. Their corporate extraction left Fort Bragg poorer while they bagged the profits. Consider getting the Timber Yield Tax increased and sent back to Fort Bragg to help pay for this process.

Re-allocate a percentage of the Transit Occupancy tax to support this change.

Signs, websites, re-ordering of stationary, business cards always need to be updated and replaced regularly; none of which needs to be completed immediately. This can be done over time.

Businesses with "Fort Bragg" in their names don't need to change that if they don't want to.

Funds can be raised from the public for things like the "Welcome to Noyo" sign. We would not be the first city to ever change its name. These problems have been solved by others and we can solve them here.

WHY Keep the name of a traitor & slave owner?

The time has come to change the name of this town named for a slave owner, who was a traitor to the U.S. as Confederate General who fought against the U.S. Union Army. Why in the world would we want to justify keeping the name of Bragg who is generally considered among the worst generals of the Civil War. Bragg has a generally poor reputation.

Interestingly "Bragg" is a ghost town in Hardin County, Texas, in the Big Thicket forest area of the southeastern part of the state. Sometimes referred to as "Bragg Station."

Also named after the Confederate general Braxton Bragg, this town was built around an important railroad junction installed by the Santa Fe Railroad system in 1902. The railroad line transported lumber and other supplies servicing the oil industry near Beaumont, Texas.

Several years later, the local industry would begin to shift its shipping lanes and abandon the railroad. In addition to the relocation of oilfield workers into other communities, the rail line extending from Bragg Station south to the small community of Saratoga was dismantled in 1934.

My Best Regards,

Mary Rose Kaczorowski,

PO Box 1684
Ft. Bragg CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: susannah olsonday <zannie2003@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:39 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City resident in support of name change

I live in Fort Bragg and have all my life and I strongly believe that the name change should be put to a vote.
Earnestly,
Susannah Olsonday

Lemos, June

From: Gini Faller <gini.f@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:29 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg's name

Hello~

One of my favorite memories as a child was a family road trip to Fort Bragg. It has always remained one of my favorite places. But until recently I did not know the source of its name. Now I know that Braxton Bragg was a large slave owner and a traitor to the United States. Fort Bragg will forever be tarnished in my mind.

I understand that Fort Bragg is considering a name change. I hope you will make the change. I live in Seattle which is the county seat for King County, Washington. King County was also originally named for a slave owner (and vice president), William Rufus deVane King. Over 30 years ago, King County's legacy was rejected and its name was changed to Martin Luther King, Jr., County, a name we can be proud of. Obviously, Fort Bragg's name change will be more difficult - but no less necessary. History matters. Names matter. I am certainly not the only one who thought of Fort Bragg as a beautiful beach and site of joyous surf smelt fishing but now will only be able to associate the name with institutionalized racism of the deepest sort.

Thank you for considering my letter.

Sincerely,

Virginia Faller

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." James Baldwin

Gini (Virginia L.) Faller
206-721-1163
gini.f@comcast.net

Lemos, June

From: Kate Donohue <kate@kate-donohue.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FW: name change

Importance: High

Thank you for sharing my thoughts. I was told to send this to you also.

Appreciate your help.

Kate

From: Kate Donohue
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:02 PM
To: wlee@fortbragg.com
Subject: name change
Importance: High

Dear Will,

I would like to add my voice to the discussion of changing the name of Fort Bragg, CA. We are living in a time where there is a new racial awareness of confederate generals being honored for fighting for slavery and against the US government. Fort Bragg was named after a racist general in the Civil War who owned 150 or so human beings and had them as slaves.

I feel if we do not change the name we are condoning systemic racism. It would not be a good stance to take morally. And also it would not attract tourists to our town as it represents a stance that many would not want to be associated with. Also tourists would know that we did not change our name and honored a racist man. A friend who works at the post office also jokingly added less mail would be sent to Fort Bragg, NC. This happens frequently.

It is time for a change supporting the meaning of liberty and justice for ALL.

I know there is a meeting Monday night and wanted to have my voice heard in this discussion. Hope you will agree to share my thoughts.

Thank you for your time and efforts,

Kate Donohue

Kate T. Donohue, Ph.D. REAT

19201 Noyo Acres Drive

Fort Bragg, CA 94537

kate@kate-donohue.com

www.kate-donohue.com

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Lemos, June

From: Jane Yett <janeyett1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Jane Yett
Subject: Change the Name!

I would like to encourage the city to choose a more ethical and lovely name. Besides the deplorable history of Bragg himself, a more enticing pro-visitor name is surely possible. The process can generate a community-building process that brings people together. Good luck!
Jane Yett

Jane Yett
janeyett1@gmail.com
831-431-3359

Lemos, June

From: Gowan <gowan.metal@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: June 22nd City Hall MTG

Dear Ms. Lemos,

I am sending you this list as a 5th generation Mendocino county resident because I entirely agree with the demands laid out below. We have an opportunity to be part of a wave of progress, or to once again choose ignorance and racism.

Sincerely,
Gowan Batist

Demands and Explanations for City Council meeting on Monday, June 22 at 6pm
by MendoCoast BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color)

Native folk must get 15 minutes to speak on Monday, before anyone else.

Because the first people harmed by Fort Bragg were the Aboriginals, it is imperative that they be given the lead on this issue. Giving them the lead on this issue starts with giving them more time to, as a Sovereign Nation, open the Public Comment on this issue with a block statement or presentation of their choosing.

We demand the forming of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name. We neither support the Council putting it on the November ballot nor a Citizens' Initiative.

Racial Justice/Civil Rights should not be put to a vote for multiple reasons. First, it's just not right to put up such an issue to the People to vote. Two, any ballot initiative would likely lose along racial lines: the Black and Aboriginal folks number too few to win it, and the White and Latinx allies too few to fairly challenge that gap. Three, it puts the burden to run a likely futile campaign to convince people to do the right thing on people who already have enough on their plates fighting for Racial Justice on a chronic and ongoing daily basis. Our elected leaders must show leadership by actually leading on issues like this, not just passing the buck to the voters.

The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power.

The original military installation ultimately called Fort Bragg was intended to contain and violently control the Native population well before the Civil War or Bragg was a Confederate General.

The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC.

The issue of Racial Justice adversely affects, obviously, the BIPOC more than anyone else. This means that they should be taking the lead on this issue.

All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend.

BIPOC's time is taken for free all the time for Racial Justice work. The City must compensate them for their time, expertise, experience, and burden.

The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants.

The City needs to hear this discussion.

The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name.

This could be changing the name, and if so what to, as well as keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).

The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice.

This can't just be about changing a name. The workshops will happen to ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the deeper issues related to greater racial justice.

The Task Force proceedings must be recorded.
This is to ensure accountability as well as record them as educational resources for the future.

Lemos, June

From: Cleaver, Harry M <hmcleave@austin.utexas.edu>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:33 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Cleaver, Harry M
Subject: change your name

To Whom It May Concern,

As a native Californian, born in Bakersfield, I suggest it is way past time to change the name of your town from that of a traitor to the United States to something else. If it must be some military type, at least choose a patriot.

Harry Cleaver

Lemos, June

From: Abraham Cohen <aparkercohen@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Changing the name of our town

Dear June Lemos & Fort Bragg City Council,

I grew up in Fort Bragg, and I love my hometown. Though I left home after high school, I have returned to spend significant portions of my life through my twenties living in our town. In fact, I am currently living at home. I have beloved friends and family in our town, I have been a valued employee at our local hospital as well as at other local businesses, and I have been involved in our community in numerous other ways.

I have not always had such warm feelings toward our community, though. Growing up, I attended the public schools, and I faced horrendous bullying throughout my young life. It took until later in my life for me to begin to become comfortable enough with who I am to come out as a member of the LGBTQ community, but I have always been "different;" I never conformed to what my teachers, peers, and peers' parents expected of me as a "boy." That, along with my studiousness, sensitivity, and disinterest in sports, was enough to earn me years of emotional and physical torture from my peers.

Fortunately, though, I have learned that I prefer to be forgiving and move on from the past. It is not healthy for me to hold anger in my heart. I have also seen our community grow to be more open-minded and accepting than it was when I was young. However, I do not forget the kind of bigotry and small-mindedness that I faced growing up, and I'm sad to say that I have faced it as an adult, too: in the homophobic bullying I faced while working at the hospital, in the bigotry I've encountered while trying to date, and in many other ways. I do my best to speak up every time.

Largely because I grew up in the margins, I work to do my part to be an ally to those who face oppression and suffer from inequity in our country. I believe to my core that BLACK LIVES MATTER, a concept that I have had to seek understanding of on my own, as an adult; I had no exposure growing up, in our homogeneous small town, to the realities faced by Black Americans. Similarly, I learned next to nothing in our schools about the historical and current horrifying realities faced by the indigenous peoples all through this country--and Fort Bragg is certainly no exception to that.

I believe that it is the responsibility of every single person, particularly people with more privilege and power, to work to lift up everybody. We must not only face up to how we contribute to systems of oppression, we must then work to dismantle them. We must sacrifice our comfort to do so. We should not allow ourselves to *feel* comfortable within a society wherein so many lives are devalued and threatened. It may seem out of reach, but we must start somewhere and not stop until all lives are valued: Black lives and the lives of all people of color, the lives of indigenous peoples, the lives of LGBTQ people, the lives of disabled people, the lives of people struggling with mental illness, the lives of undocumented immigrants.

One small place we can start is by changing the name of our town. Fort Bragg. "Fort" commemorates our town's brief history as an outpost of a system of violence responsible for the oppression and murder of millions of indigenous people. "Bragg" pays homage to Braxton Bragg, a man who proudly allied himself with and fought for the terrorism of the Confederacy. There is so much more that we need to do as a community to make everyone feel safe, but one place where we can start is by finding a name that reflects the beauty of the coast

that gives all of us life. I believe the best way to do so is by reaching out to the descendants of the first people who lived on the precious lands that we now share to ask them what this town should be named.

Someone recently asked me, in a discussion about removing confederate statues and changing names that celebrate our country's history of oppression, where it stops. Once we start pulling at the thread of our country's racist, violent, white-supremacist history ("decolonizing"), where can the process stop? I had to answer that I didn't know where it stops, but I offered that I do know where it should start: wherever realities are hurting real people right now. Our country's racist police force and carceral state hurt real people of color every single day, so we have to start there. Vast wealth disparity keeps the majority of people in this country away from living fully realized lives, so we have to start there. Black trans women are being murdered by bigots, so we have to start there. Indigenous people are still forced to live on horrifyingly under-resourced "reservations" faced with the plunder of their ancestral lands every single day, so we must start there. Confederate monuments hurt the descendants of slaves forced to look at them day in and day out, so we have to start there.

Let's start, as a community, by finding a name that reminds us all of the aspects of our community we want to cultivate.

Sincerely,

Abraham Cohen

140-1/2 South Whipple Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

(707) 694-3691

Lemos, June

From: Ellen Buechner <ellenbuechner@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Please read this important message from BIPOC

Dear Ms. Lemos,

I am forwarding this to you as an expression of my whole-hearted endorsement of its recommendations. I am not a Fort Bragg resident, but what Fort Bragg does affects my family and me in specific and far-reaching ways. Thank you for listening.

-Ellen Buechner of Caspar

Demands and Explanations for City Council meeting on Monday, June 22 at 6pm
by MendoCoast BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color)

Native folk must get 15 minutes to speak on Monday, before anyone else.

Because the first people harmed by Fort Bragg were the Aboriginals, it is imperative that they be given the lead on this issue. Giving them the lead on this issue starts with giving them more time to, as a Sovereign Nation, open the Public Comment on this issue with a block statement or presentation of their choosing.

We demand the forming of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name. We neither support the Council putting it on the November ballot nor a Citizens' Initiative.

Racial Justice/Civil Rights should not be put to a vote for multiple reasons. First, it's just not right to put up such an issue to the People to vote. Two, any ballot initiative would likely lose along racial lines: the Black and Aboriginal folks number too few to win it, and the White and Latinx allies too few to fairly challenge that gap. Three, it puts the burden to run a likely futile campaign to convince people to do the right thing on people who already have enough on their plates fighting for Racial Justice on a chronic and ongoing daily basis. Our elected leaders must show leadership by actually leading on issues like this, not just passing the buck to the voters.

The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power.

The original military installation ultimately called Fort Bragg was intended to contain and violently control the Native population well before the Civil War or Bragg was a Confederate General.

The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC.

The issue of Racial Justice adversely affects, obviously, the BIPOC more than anyone else. This means that they should be taking the lead on this issue.

All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend.

BIPOC's time is taken for free all the time for Racial Justice work. The City must compensate them for their time, expertise, experience, and burden.

The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants.

The City needs to hear this discussion.

The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name.

This could be changing the name, and if so what to, as well as keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).

The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice.

This can't just be about changing a name. The workshops will happen to ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the deeper issues related to greater racial justice.

The Task Force proceedings must be recorded.

This is to ensure accountability as well as record them as educational resources for the future.

Lemos, June

From: Sharon Bowers <bowhardt@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 3:23 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Head in Sandy Beach Glass

Dear City Council,

We can't hide our head in sandy beach glass. The whole nation is watching us and discussing our town. Like it or not, the people of Fort Bragg must change the city's name.

Our number one industry is tourism. Our reputation matters. Clinging to a despicable person's name is ridiculous. We must emerge from history's shady past and do the right thing.

Let us band together to change our name for the good of our town.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bowers

Fort Bragg resident

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 3:15 PM
To: Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal; Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: City Name

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jan Christofferson <janc55@yahoo.com>
Date: June 21, 2020 at 2:30:40 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: City Name

Hi Mr. Mayor,

You could get around all the controversy by "renaming" Fort Bragg for singer Billy Bragg. Cheap. Easy. He'd probably come and play an outdoor concert, which would draw many visitors to the town. An option you should consider!

Jan Christofferson
155 Dennison Lane
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: brook elgen <theevilsrunchies@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 2:53 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change



To the Ft Bragg city council members,

The term fort is an abbreviation for fortification. The definition of fortification is, according to Webster's Dictionary- military construction and buildings designed for defense in warfare and military bases. This is an inaccurate definition of our quaint, seaside town that depends so heavily on tourism. Our abalone fishery is indefinitely closed, the ancient redwoods are long gone, the college campus is struggling, the downtown business district is plagued with vacancies, and mentally ill transients occupy our sidewalks. We desperately need to take this opportunity to rebrand our reputation in an attempt to renew the vitality of this town. An appropriate name change will result in national and possible international attention, attracting much needed tourist revenue. We should choose a name honoring the native Pomo people who were systematically forced out of the area in the name of General Braxton Bragg. As an artists/graphic designer I've included a logo to hopefully inspire you to do the right thing and allow a vote toward a revitalized community. Thank you, Brook Craddock

Lemos, June

From: alethea Patton <aletheapattondesign@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 1:55 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg

Hi Mr. Lemos,

Although I live in Point Arena, I do a lot of shopping and business in Fort Bragg. I support the name change. It is the least we can do to show respect for the First People of this place and heal the wounds inflicted by our forefathers and foremothers.

Sincerely,

Alethea Patton

Lemos, June

From: Paul Bohannon <paulbohannon2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 1:37 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

I'm writing in strong support in the effort / discussion to change the name of the City Of Ft. Bragg. I would also like to acknowledge that this is not the first effort to make this change. There was in the past an move to change the name to Noyo. I am still in favor of that, but support a consensus. Thank you for your many contributions to our community.
Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Baile Oakes <baileoakes@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change for City

Hello June,

I strongly support the changing of the name of Fort Bragg to a name that honors the thousands of years of humans living here in peace and balance with the rest of Creation prior to the arrival of new people who enslaved and killed them off with the destruction of the entire ecosystem.

love

baile oakes

Lemos, June

From: Sierra Wooten <sierrawooten@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:07 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Public comment regarding name change

Petition: Immediately Form an Inclusive Task Force to Select a New Name for Fort Bragg, CA

https://www.change.org/p/fort-bragg-city-council-change-fort-bragg-name-now-58551b7a-7e6f-43c1-a26f-feb90a7726c6?utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=custom_url&recruited_by_id=8013c3c0-a839-11e6-b462-1d72635f76f1

(as of 6/21/2020 at 12:04 PM we have 681/1,000 signatures)

Mendocino Coast Progressive Action Network started this petition to Fort Bragg City Council

Prepared by the Mendocino Coast Progressive Action Network for MendoCoast BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color)

The brutal murder of George Floyd by a white police officer on Memorial Day in Minneapolis has sparked action and renewed calls for racial justice around the country. The hundreds of sites still named after Confederate generals who fought to preserve slavery, including schools, monuments, military bases, and cities, are salt in the wounds of those who still suffer the legacy of slavery, Native American genocide, and the ongoing systemic racism related to both. Retired Army General David Petraeus has called for the retiring of military base names of Confederate leaders, including Fort Bragg, NC, named after Braxton Bragg, "The most hated man of the Confederacy" - a man who personally owned 105 slaves, fought to preserve the practice of slavery, and was generally regarded as an incompetent and inept military officer.

On 6/12, our City announced its intention to discuss placing a November ballot measure to change the City's name. However, we the undersigned believe that it is the Council's responsibility to begin this process immediately - not put what is a Civil Rights and Social Justice issue to a vote. It's time for courageous and concrete action and leadership. Putting this issue to a vote is not that action. Passing the buck is not that leadership. It is not appropriate to put up for a vote a name that causes real harm to traumatized people right here and right now.

Therefore, we respectfully demand that the Council vote to immediately form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name, composed of thoughtful, informed, and emotionally-intelligent residents. We demand it include representation from all communities, especially the Black folk for whom the name Bragg represents the legacy of slavery and the Native folk whose land was taken for the original military outpost.

Racist monuments are literally falling at an unprecedented rate, taken down by American citizens fed up with the glorification of our racist history. We must reckon with that same racism embodied in our City's name.

If this Council does not move to change our name, it will be choosing to perpetuate the energy of a history of slavery and genocide. This Council must best support our Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) by beginning now the process of selecting a just and inclusive name for which all residents and visitors of our beautiful City can be proud.

We respectfully demand that the Council vote to immediately form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name, composed of thoughtful, informed, and emotionally-intelligent residents.

First and foremost, we are demanding that at the City Council's meeting on Monday, June 22nd, the Natives get 15 minutes to speak, before anyone else. We need to just listen.

We are respectfully demanding the following -

- We demand the forming of an Inclusive Task Force to Discuss a New Name. We neither support the Council putting it on the November ballot nor a Citizen's Initiative. Racial Justice and Civil Rights should not be put to a vote.
- The Sovereign Native Pomo must be given some kind of block or veto power, as Fort Bragg was a fort intended to slaughter, contain, and control the native population well before the Civil War or before Bragg was a Confederate General.
- The Task Force must be predominantly composed of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, Other People of Color).
- All citizen members of the Task Force must be offered a stipend. BIPOC's time is taken for free all the time for Racial Justice work. The City must compensate them for their time, expertise, experience, and burden.
- The Task Force must include the City Manager and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye as non-voting observers/participants. The City needs to hear these discussions.
- The Task Force will discuss any and all options for "changing" the name, including keeping the name but rededicating it to another, more worthy individual (like King County, WA did in the 80s).
- The Task Force will hold at least four educational workshops on racial justice that will make clear the issues around the name change, to ensure these name change efforts do not gloss over the deeper issues related to greater racial justice.
- We want the proceedings to be recorded and made available for online public viewing.

Lemos, June

From: Spirit <spiritway02@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 12:47 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Yes for Name Change

no question. why would any one want to continue to honor some one who did what he did to so many others in actions of hate and killings?

This Time is bringing Awareness, Higher Consciousness, Honoring, Respecting, Diversity, Equality, Life! We need to Evolve to Higher....

Change It....

Honor the Pomo.....

Lee Tepper and Dorine Real
dorine@mcn.org
P.O. Box 26
Westport CA 95488

Fort Bragg City Council
June 22, 2020

Dear City Council,

We are writing to express our support for a ballot measure to change the name of the City of Fort Bragg. Our objection to the name is more about the "Fort" part than the "Bragg" Although we live in the unincorporated area, we often need to use Fort Bragg as a reference point in explaining where we are; then after hearing, "I thought Fort Bragg was in North Carolina," and "How many people are stationed there?" we try to avoid the humiliation of explaining the true origin of the name: Fort Bragg was established to enforce the internment of the local population in an open-air concentration camp called the "Mendocino Indian Reservation".

The northern Mendocino coast has a fascinating and vigorous history, and multi-generation North Coast families have many things to be proud of, but Fort Bragg (the fort) is not one of them.

For a new name, we favor "Noyo". It is simple, well known to visitors, and logically related to other map features (Noyo River, Noyo Harbor). Its history predates the fort and reservation. However, we believe that in choosing the new name two groups should have a strong voice. We hope the descendants of the original inhabitants will graciously take part in the conversation at the City Council meeting. The adults also need to listen to what the young people have to say -- they will be most affected.

Many issues come together in this decision, but the overarching theme is our willingness to embrace and shape (inevitable) change. A new name could honor our past, but by its very adoption it would embody our hopes for the future.

Sincerely,
Dorine Real and Lee Tepper
Westport

Note: Perhaps the change could be structured to take final effect at a future date (e.g. as determined by City Council but no later than January 1, 2021) so that the City could concentrate on the present emergency, expenses could be minimized, and people could get used to the name.

Lemos, June

From: 3g@mcn.org
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Item 8A - Potential name change for Fort Bragg
Attachments: Item 8A - Potential name change for Fort Bragg.pdf

Please include the attached letter in the packet for the June 22nd meeting of the City Council.

Thank you

June 19, 2020

to: Fort Bragg City Council
fm: Luz Harvey-Powers
re: Council Meeting of June 22, 2020
Public comment for Item 8A - Potential name change for Fort Bragg

To whom it may concern:

I support changing our town's name from Fort Bragg to something less offensive.

As we all know, General Braxton Bragg was no hero. Here is an excerpt from his Wikipedia page:

"Bragg is generally considered among the worst generals of the Civil War. Most of the battles in which he engaged ended in defeat. Bragg was extremely unpopular with both the men and the officers of his command, who criticized him for numerous perceived faults, including poor battlefield strategy, a quick temper, and overzealous discipline. Bragg has a generally poor reputation with historians....."

While the above description makes one question why anyone would honor this individual, nowadays the name is offensive on many levels. Opponents of name change argue removing Gen. Bragg's name negates history. They're wrong as the town was not part of that war and Braxton Bragg never set foot in this area!

FB has been in 'transition' since the mill closed in 2002. We're now in 2020. The vast majority of the former mill site remains in flux. Renaming is about looking forward to what we want this town to be. This potential name change can be a real opportunity for our town to make itself known worldwide. I request the City Council to allow this issue on the next possible ballot.

Thank you for your consideration,

Luz Harvey-Powers

Lemos, June

From: buster9 <buster9@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

we're moving to your town this fall after ten years of visiting & working on the house we bought there. we are in favor of changing the town's name for all the reasons that have been advanced.

cherry elliott
rick alena
san francisco

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® S2

Lemos, June

From: Helen Sears <polliwog45@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:18 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name of City

Here's a suggestion to add to the discussion of the name of Fort Bragg:

How about renaming Fort Bragg in honor of Bernard Bragg, the deaf actor, who led the way in example and courage for disabled actors?

There could be a day of commendation and virtual celebration, and all signs could remain intact. And that way, the change wouldn't cost the city anything. There could also be a statement issued about the change that would denote honoring his traits, rather than anything connected to history's echoes that disparage certain races. The occasion could include a call for healing and coming together even more strongly as the nation heals.

Thank you.

Helen Sears

Lemos, June

From: Jenny Otter <jenny_otter@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:40 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Our Community

Dear Council Members,

Having spent seventeen years raising my children as a homeowner and resident in the heart of Fort Bragg, and forty years as a nearby resident with a Fort Bragg address, I have had many opportunities to consider the mis-naming of our beautiful community. For me, the name Fort Bragg has never fit the history and natural heritage of our home. The name has cast a shadow over the prevailing positive spirit of our community even as we strive to be welcoming to our visitors and to celebrate our abundant natural resources, beauty, and history.

To change to a name that better reflects this heritage would not only functionally improve our attractiveness to people considering a visit, and strengthen our economy over time, but very likely it would boost our local pride. It may go without saying that it would put our stamp on the national question of what we intend to stand for as a people.

I have never felt inclined to apologize for our place and community when explaining to people where I live, but I have often felt inclined to apologize for our name. It has never seemed an appropriate appellation of our wonderful town, and now with our national reckoning over both equality and unity, I urge you to place this question on the November ballot.

Thank you,
Jenny Otter

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:29 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal; Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: FORT BRAG for a new name

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Stephen Fisher <2stephenfisher@gmail.com>
Date: June 20, 2020 at 10:31:47 PM PDT
To: "Miller, Tabatha" <TMiller@fortbragg.com>, "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: FORT BRAG for a new name

Dear Mayor and City Manager:

As someone who has visited Fort Bragg a few times and really likes the town, I would like to suggest changing the name to Fort Brag, that way the name could be changed, but still said the same way.

I have visited Fort Bragg a few times and really like the town and liked the name, until I learned it came from a Confederate general, a defender and promoter of slavery.

I think Fort Bragg is one of the very best towns on the California coast, along with Monterrey, Santa Barbara, Mendocino and, of course, San Francisco which is why I moved out here from New York City in the 1960's.

I think Fort Bragg, Calif. has a lot to brag about and I think it won't be so difficult if the name is changed to Fort Brag.

Stephen A. Fisher, Berkeley, CA

Lemos, June

From: Joel Franks <joelfranks@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:28 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change

To have a city or town named after you is a very great honor. I do not wish to continue honoring this man Braxton Bragg, who by all accounts is worthy of far less.

The solution is simple: let the descendants of the original people decide the new name.
Right now you must let the voters decide whether or not to change the name of our city.

Joel Franks

Sent from my iPhone

Lemos, June

From: Jamie Peters <jamielp13@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change at City Council Meeting

Hi June,

I hope you're having a great Sunday!

I wanted to include in the record for tomorrow evening's City Council Meeting that I support the changing of the name of Fort Bragg as a city resident, and I second the thoughtful comments and positions of Gowan Batist and Christie Olson Day.

Thank you kindly,
Jamie Peters

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Lemos, June

From: Kaye Handley <kayechandley@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:26 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change for Ft. Bragg

I support the move to change the name of our town from Ft. Bragg to something more inclusive. The time has definitely arrived for us to disassociate ourselves from old links to a Confederate general who never even visited here. This has not been a fort for decades and as a tourist area we do not benefit from being confused with the real military base in NC.

If we want to celebrate the history of our area, I think we should name our town for the indigenous people who lived here long before. We have a beautiful harbor named for them--so why not the town?
I have heard the name Point Noyo suggested and think it should definitely be considered as a way to show our appreciation for our most vulnerable Americans.

Thank you for considering this important decision.

Kaye Handley

Lemos, June

From: Katie Turner <katieuna@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:20 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Public Comment Regarding Name change

Dear City Council,

I am writing to you as a citizen and a business owner in Fort Bragg. I grew up here, went to school here, and came back to start my business and family here. I am urging you to do the right thing, to get our City on the right side of history. Please let us begin to dismantle white supremacy in this town beginning with the name. I love Fort Bragg, the place, the community, the people but the name honoring a slave owner and traitor to our country has got to go.

I urge you please to root out the racism in this community by acknowledging this needs to happen, we need to change the name of our city. This city council needs to do the right thing and this can be your first step. Commit to changing the name of our town. Create a task force. Let's start this process.

It seems like the two biggest sticking points are "erasing history" and cost.

Changing our name would not "erase history", we are actively doing that when we don't teach our children the real history of this community. We did that when we stole this land and changed the name destroying and ignoring thousands of years of people and the history that was here. Changing our name can not change history, our history remains the same, but it gives us an opportunity for our families and teachers to teach themselves and their children about the real history of Fort Bragg. It wont erase history, but it will sever our ties to a slave owner and trader to our country.

Changing our name would show our community and the world that we do not share the values that the namesake of Fort Bragg did. Clinging onto the symbols of racism and white supremacy is not what we should be doing. We should not be honoring a horrible person with the name of our town. We should be honoring the history of this place, and the values that we hold dear which I believe for the majority of the community, are NOT racism, ignorance and white supremacy.

You worry about the cost, (under 300,000 from what the Miller report said), in the big picture that's a drop in the bucket. Many of the costs would fall under the Visit Fort Braggs committee budget, and while TOT for 2020 will be dismal, this years budget, with 2019 TOT, I expect will have some surplus. The Fireworks and Salmon BBQ have been canceled (that was a large chunk of the events budget), possibly Paul Bunyan days will be canceled, we can't have block parties, the events budget will likely not be spent. All that money can go to the re-branding, new logos printed material etc. The cost can be spread out over the years. Commit to a name change, create a task force that includes BIPOC. The name change isn't going to happen overnight, it will take some time. With tourism opening back up 2021 TOT will be better. The cost to the city it won't be 300,000 all at once. I am sure funds can be raised for many of these costs, and grants could be applied for as well.

With a plan and dates laid out for the name change businesses can plan accordingly and use up old printed materials before the date that the city communicates that the new name will be in effect. With knowledge of the name change shops that sell Fort Bragg branded merchandise can sell through old inventory and get ready with new inventory.

The other cost of course to small businesses, for the most part is small, and with proper time and planning this transition can be smooth.

Another side of cost that can not be ignored is that if we don't do this now, in this moment of history, Fort Bragg will have wasted all it's branding efforts, we will not be known as the beautiful small town that we are but effectively be

branding this town as a racist hold out of the confederacy. That is not who we really are, so lets not let the loud voices of many folks who just afraid of change, and other folks who are really upholding white supremacy, let's not let them speak for us all, and let's not let their voices be the ones speaking for us as a whole. We are better than that, we are better than our name. Let's have a name this town deserves.

Then, imagine we change the name, and instead of ignoring the atrocities that happened here we acknowledge the wrong, and start educating our community and our visitors. Create a museum a place that our kids and visitors can go to learn about the history of this town. We can teach the history of this land before white people stole it, The awful things that happened here, and the history that happened while we were Fort Bragg and display the relics of old Fort Bragg, (like all the welcome signs), and talk about why we changed the name.

Please do the right thing, move our community forward. Commit to changing the name of Fort Bragg.

Looking forward to living in a town whose name I can be proud to tell my children about.

Sincerely,

Katie Turner-Carr

Lemos, June

From: Lisa Fredrickson <yes@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Comment: I support BIPOC task force

Ms. Lemos,

I would like my comment made known to the city council tonight at the June 22 meeting that I support the Mendocino Coast BIPOC recommendation to form an inclusive task force to discuss a new town name, neither supporting the Council putting it on the ballot nor a citizen's initiative. I support the convening of educational workshops as the task force and the community work together to find a just and fitting name that reflects our open and welcoming community.

Thankyou,

Lisa Fredrickson
860 E Laurel St
Fort Bragg CA 95437
(707)972-0884

Lemos, June

From: Zo Carr <zo.carr-2029@fbusd.us>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

Dear City Council,

I am a nine year old kid. I think you should change the name of Fort Bragg so we aren't named after a bad person. I love this town so I think we could call it Heartland. Or Beach City because of our good beaches.

Sincerely,

Zo Carr

Lemos, June

From: Carrie Durkee <cdurkee@mcn.org>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change

Hello:

Please put it on the ballot.
Ask the Pomos to be involved.

Take your time...and build in community conversations so that the opposition feels heard.
Good opportunity for change.
Thanks
Carrie Durkee

Lemos, June

From: Tanya Smart <Tanya.Smart@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:15 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: proposed vote to change the name of the city

City Council Members:

I urge you to commit to enabling a vote regarding changing the city's name.

Giving the people a chance to voice their opinion in this matter is the right thing to do. The name "Fort Bragg" is relatively recent for an area that has a long history. It was given to a fort established as a garrison for the control of First Nation peoples. The fort and garrison were abandoned years before the city incorporated. The name of the fort was adopted during incorporation despite the opposition and consternation that the name commemorated a Confederate officer. The history of the Civil War as well as this fort and the consequences to First Nation people should be remembered and taught in our schools, but not honored by the name of a Confederate officer. History is a continuum, not a snapshot. Future history courses can reflect on the choices we make at this time.

The current name doesn't enhance our future as a tourist destination. When I moved here in 1999, I had to explain many times that I was not moving to a military base in North Carolina. When people ask where I am from, I say "the Mendocino Coast" to avoid confusion. As a volunteer at Point Cabrillo Lightstation State Historic Park, I answer this quandary from visitors every shift.

Many destinations have overcome this issue including National Parks (Denali) and towns (Elk). We can commit to a process without rushing that process. Signs, websites, and supplies all need to be updated and replaced regularly. School sport uniforms are purchased by each incoming student. A vote does not mandate that all changes have to be implemented immediately. Businesses can choose to change or not. Fundraising for public signs can be implemented and will go far to advertise our area for visitors. Problems are solvable with time, patience and compassion.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Smart

Fort Bragg

Lemos, June

From: Christie Olson Day <christie@gallerybookshop.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:08 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Sanderson Way voter in favor of name change

City Council Members:

As a longtime resident of the city, I urge you to commit to a process of changing the city's name.

It's the right thing to do. The name "Fort Bragg" commemorates a relatively brief period in the history of this place, and it's a period that should be remembered, but not honored. This area has a long history that predates the Fort and we could reflect that, with a Native name. Or it could be a name based on the natural beauty of this precious spot, with its valuable harbor. Local Indigenous residents should be deeply involved in the process of choosing a new name, if they are willing.

It's also the pragmatic thing to do. The current name doesn't enhance our future as a tourist destination. In fact, every time we consider making a change -- and then fail to do so -- we damage our reputation for tourism.

Finally, concerns about cost are valid, but surmountable. We can commit to a process without rushing that process. Signs, websites, and supplies all need to be updated and replaced regularly; none of this needs to be completed immediately. Businesses with "Fort Bragg" in their names don't need to change that if they don't want to. And funds can be raised from the public for things like the "Welcome to Fort Bragg" sign. We would not be the first city to ever change its name. These problems have been solved by others and we can solve them here.

Thank you.

Christie Olson Day

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:57 AM
To: Munoz, Cristal; Miller, Tabatha; Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: Hi please agree to a name change

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: ldennis <ldennis@mcn.org>
Date: June 20, 2020 at 8:55:01 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Hi please agree to a name change

Fort Bragg can be the city who dared. Let the people vote and decide on a beautiful name for our beautiful city.

Lorna Dennis
FB resident since August 1990.

Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Idennis <Idennis@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 8:20 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Change the name

We are a proud and mostly cohesive community. Given the current move to recognize our individual racist and bias stances I hope that we can extend our love for community into pride of our willingness to change the name of Fort Bragg to something reflective of its original people.

Please let us decide or, if not, you decide and we will support the choice. A name change is absolutely imperative.

Lorna Dennis
Lonny Nason
301 S Whipple St

Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Matt Franks <mfranks@westga.edu>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:58 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg Name Change

Dear Fort Bragg City Council Members,

I was born in Fort Bragg, I grew up here, and I spend three months out of every year here with my parents. As a college English professor, I teach my students how much names matter. Names are not just labels: they carry history, they endow honor, and they send messages. The name Fort Bragg conveys different histories, honors, and messages to different people inside and outside the city limits. For some, this name encapsulates belonging, family, and pride. For others, it embodies racism, violence, and the displacement of native people. For these reasons, it is essential that citizens of Fort Bragg have the opportunity to voice their perspectives, listen to those of others, and ultimately to decide for themselves and vote on the name of their town.

While everyone is focused on debating between these interpretations, I call on you to recognize your place and let the people decide. It is not up to you to rename our town. Rather, it is your duty to give the citizens the opportunity to decide for themselves. There is nothing controversial in this, because it is the foundation of all of our national and local values: democracy itself. I urge you to be clear about the focus and agenda of this week's city council meeting, which is not to debate the pros and cons of a name change but to give the people the opportunity to decide for themselves in November.

Sincerely,

Matt Franks

Matt Franks
Associate Professor of English
University of West Georgia
mfranks@westga.edu
(678) 839-4875

This e-mail is intended solely for the addressee and may contain confidential information. If you are not the addressee please do not save, print, or retransmit, except to return to the sender.

Lemos, June

From: Scott Menzies <scott.m.menzies@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy
Cc: Lemos, June; Sierra Wooten; Javier Silva
Subject: SUPPORT Task Force and Aboriginal Voices; OPPOSE ballot initiative

Mayor and Members of the City Council.

Racial Justice must not be put to a vote. Putting such an issue to a vote ensures its failure along likely racial lines. The Black and Aboriginal folks for whom this name causes real suffering number a fraction of the population. Their allies in the white and Latino communities are likely insufficient to bridge that gap.

Sending this issue straight to the ballot is the absolute wrong thing to do.

It's inappropriate to put Civil Rights and Racial Justice issues up for a vote at any time. It's appropriate for our elected leadership to work to do the right thing and what they were elected to do - actually lead on such critical issues.

Putting it to a vote is also passing the buck and putting the burden, again, on the Black and Aboriginal folks, who have suffered, and continue to suffer, under the burden of ongoing community racism and systemic racism, on top of the legacy of slavery and Native genocide. Putting to a vote means they now have to spend even more unpaid advocacy time to fight a futile electoral battle on top of the burden they already carry.

This is why I demand you direct staff to explore the immediate creation of a Name Change Task Force that will engage in an authentic discussion of Racial Justice in our region as well as how to proceed with a name change or re-dedication. I demand such a Task Force be led by the Aboriginals of this area, for whom the "fort" in the City's name represents a direct line of colonialism from the fort used to subjugate and slaughter the Aboriginal population to now.

That Native leadership must start by providing them, as a Sovereign Nation, 15 minutes of time to open this Monday's Public Comment on the name change issue.

This name change issue cannot be considered an end-point. The real goal is authentically addressing Racial Justice locally. Just changing the name without such an authentic discussion is just scraping off a manifestation of the issue, while sweeping the issue itself under the rug.

Thank you for your time,
Scott

Scott Menzies, M.A. (Environment & Community)
Instructor/Proprietor
Perfect Circle Taijiquan
P.O. Box 1243 / 330 N. Franklin St, Fort Bragg, CA
530-410-3333 (cell)
707-962-3009 (studio - ringer always off)

Lemos, June

From: Charlene McAllister <charad@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:02 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change for Fort Bragg

While I am not a resident of the city, I consider all of us on the Mendocino Coast to be citizens of Fort Bragg since it is our shopping center as well as where we spend a lot of our time. I would hope you give serious consideration to changing the name of the town. It's been discussed before I know, and went nowhere. I think the time is right. Seem like Noyo is the front runner at the moment. I have no preferences as the name, just that it fits with the area and the history.

Charlene McAllister
45601 Headlands Drive
Little River, CA 95456
707-937-4463

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:50 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha; Lemos, June; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Statement in Support of City Name-Change

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Boult, Johanna R." <jboult@lsuhsc.edu>
Date: June 20, 2020 at 9:44:52 AM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Statement in Support of City Name-Change

Dear Mr. Lee,

I, a daughter of Fort Bragg, CA, humbly submit the following statement in support of the city's name-change.

One of the ten remaining US Army bases that is named after a Confederate General is Fort A.P. Hill, named after Ambrose Powell Hill my distant cousin. His grandfather was my 5x great grandfather Ambrose Powell. Now, my mother, Karen Powell, was a longtime resident of Fort Bragg, California who died and is buried there. If you knew her, she was one of a kind; one of the smartest, most loving people on the planet. However, she was who she was in spite of, not because of, her family's relationship with our country's racist past. Hopefully soon, the discussion about renaming Fort A.P. Hill will be rekindled, and I will not only not object, I will be 100%, fully and totally in support. I'll be cheering. Will I be absolved of my ancestors' complicity? No. But we won't be honoring the dishonorable. At this moment in history, Black lives need to be prioritized, re-evaluated as precious as they mistakenly have not been in the past. Black lives are exponentially more valuable than maintaining any honorable mention of General Hill.

Now I'm not Southern by birth, but I've lived here (in Louisiana) over 20 years. I now view the world through a lens that's both Southern and Californian. And my children are bicultural, raised with the love provided by a Black man from Louisiana and a White woman from California. I was born and raised on the Northern California coast, in a little mill town: among a pretty even mix of hippie kids and rednecks. My family was more of the hippie persuasion, but I had and have friends from both camps. I grew up there, and every important childhood memory I have was made there. I love that place like no other place on earth. I remember climbing trees in my mother's fruit orchard on Benson Lane with my brother and sisters and the other neighborhood kids, I was a cheerleader and a tennis player, I fell in love for the first time and then had my heart broken there. All of this happened in that little town. The name of that town: Fort Bragg...No, not the Army base in North Carolina, but, yes, both places are named after the same Confederate General, Braxton Bragg.

So when I heard about the recent call for a meeting to discuss renaming my hometown, I didn't disagree. Now, I don't currently live there, however, many friends and family still do, and my mother's land is partially my inheritance, so I have a stake in this matter. However, contrary to my opinion, there seems to be a contingent that strongly disagrees with changing the name from Ft. Bragg. That popular sentiment doesn't mean that there aren't good reasons to consider changing it.

Hear me out. If we lay out the values guiding each position, we'll be able to make a well-informed decision. Here are the values we might consider to support the argument to change the name:

1. Patriotism: Braxton Bragg commanded forces that killed Americans. Our love of country should compel us not to be complicit.
2. Justice: We should teach our children to stand up for what's right. What's fair. What will we say to our children about our support of the name of our town? Imagine yourself looking in your child's eyes and explaining your reasoning.
3. Equity. We should value all our community members equally. The current name sends a message of exclusion to all our community members who are Black. Furthermore, it persists in excluding the Native American community members whose community was there even before the fort.
4. Financial viability. We should consider both short and long term financial impact. I've seen legitimate concern that this is a bad time for this. But if not now, when? It could be true that in the wake of the COVID19 quarantine, a name change would increase financial pressure. Consider this: any short-term pressure on businesses will surely be made up for by positive media attention. Can you imagine how the world will view this choice? If we change the name, the world will surely be supportive morally and financially.

I would request that those who support keeping the current name lay bare their underlying values too. In this way, we can make a decision that clearly reflects the values of the community.

Dr. Johanna Weddle Boulton

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha; Lemos, June; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Rename Your City for Union General Bragg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nomen Nescio <nobody@dizum.com>
Date: June 20, 2020 at 10:34:22 AM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Rename Your City for Union General Bragg

Mayor Will
Lee

City of Fort Bragg,
California
North Franklin
Street
Bragg, CA 95437
President Kathy A.
Babcock
Bragg Unified School
District
Lincoln,
Street,
Bragg, CA 95437

416

Fort

Fort

312 South

Fort

Dear Mayor Will and President Babcock;
RE: Rename Fort Bragg for General Edward S. Bragg, Civil War Union General

Like millions of Americans (and as an American military veteran), I was shocked to learn that prior to World Wars I and II, the US Army had allowed ten of its new military bases to be named after Confederate Generals and a Colonel. These men engaged in war against the United States to preserve slavery in the southern states. By Constitutional definition, these men had committed treason against the United States and these facilities never should have been named for them. The city of Fort Bragg, California and the Fort Bragg Unified School District were also named after one of these men, Confederate General Braxton Bragg. In order to remove this individual's name from your city and school district, while at the same time maintaining the history of your community and your school district, you may want to consider this proposal.

By renaming your city for U.S. Army Brigadier General Edward S. Bragg (1827-1912), you would enable the thousands of residents of your community and the thousands of students and staff of the school district, to continue to proudly refer to the community they live in and the school district they attend or serve.

You would also be honoring an American hero who, after his service in the Civil War, went on to serve four terms in the U.S House of Representatives and later also serve as U.S. Minister to Mexico. For those residents concerned about the cost of a name change for the city, the cost of this name change would obviously be very virtually nothing.

Sincerely,

Thomas Guy Young

PS – This is a pen name created from three of my distant ancestors and the address belongs to a post office. The idea should be the focus, not the Author.

Lemos, June

From: Holly Madrigal <mshollymadrigal@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:27 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Support Name Change on Ballot

Hello Fort Bragg City Council,

I will be unable to join the meeting on Monday but I want to add my voice as a voter.

Please put this question on the ballot. I support changing the name. Noyo Harbor has a lovely ring to it but I'm open to whatever the community decides.

Warmly,
Holly Madrigal
649 1/2 Stewart St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: Idennis <Idennis@mcn.org>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:49 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: FB namechange

The Beauty of our city should be reflected in the Beauty of its name.

Lorna Dennis
301 S Whipple Street

Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Linda Schneider <Indschneid@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Comment on name change

Hello,
I am a Fort Bragg resident and California native.

I posted the following on my own Facebook page, and was asked to forward it to you.

"If I am abused, molested or neglected in my upbringing, and my family decides to keep a small statue, a painting or a bust of my abusers to honor their family history, how am I to feel every time I see the reminder? What am I to think of the people who are so insensitive they would insist on this reminder, and on my retraumatization? How do I have any positive relationship with anyone who promotes an approval of abuse?"

I am all for change."

Linda Schneider

Lemos, June

From: Sheryl Kuhns <sherylkainoa@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:46 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: I support a name change

Hi

I live in Fort Bragg and wanted to voice my support for a name change.
Thank you for considering it.

Lemos, June

From: Gowan <gowan.metal@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:30 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change public comment
Attachments: Screenshot_20200614-212754.png

Attached is a diagram of the Mendocino Reservation- if you look closely it includes everything north of the Noyo river, a place currently called Fort Bragg by colonizers.

The debate over the name Bragg, after Braxton Bragg, the confederate general, has come up again. Supporters of keeping the name argue that it's our history and we shouldn't erase it. That's just the thing though- whose history is really being erased?

The debate over the towns name goes all the way back to the civil war, when the theft of the land the town sits on was recent. Bragg became a confederate general a couple years after the town was named after him, and there was debate over whether it was patriotic to keep the name or not. It was kept. I personally think it was kept because, when you came down to it, the values of the confederacy, (which mentioned slavery 80 times in their ratification) were acceptable to most people here.

After growing up here, reading the book American Genocide by Benjamin Madley confirmed some deep, cold feelings I'd always had. I took field trips to Fort Ross as a young kid and was told lies about their relationship with the Aboriginal* population. They actually enslaved about 70 people at the fort. Some of the last children sold into slavery in the country were in California, and were Aboriginal children. At one point, about every third household in Ukiah had at least one enslaved Native person. The vineyards that were originally planted here were with forced labor. There were mass killings and a death march in inland Mendocino. People were driven to death by starvation and conscripted into slavery for foraging to eat. They were cut off from the coast that sustained them.

The current populations ignorance, (like mine that was shaped by our schools failure to educate us on local history,) isn't an excuse. I've had one woman slamming my comments saying that the name of the town isn't about the confederacy, because Bragg wasn't a general yet... but they chose to keep the name after he was, because his values and the towns were not far apart. A genocide happened here. Slavery happened here. Forcing out the Chinese population happened here. (And shame on Footlighters for their Yellow Face character in the parade) Destruction of sacred trees happened here. Y'all still celebrate it every Paul Bunyan Days.

I think on Monday, the Tribal council must speak first. They may or may not care what we call this town, especially if the name change doesn't come with meaningful land return and reconciliation. But they have first rights anyway, this is their stolen land.

Do not cling onto racist symbols while pleading that your attachment to them is somehow innocent, and that the confederacy never touched here. A man with confederate flags taped on his truck flipped off the gathered people at City Hall making the simple statement that Black Lives Matter last Sunday. He flipped off kids, he spat and blew his nose at my family, and someone with him mimed choking them. In our town named after general Bragg.

Nostalgia isn't an excuse. Ignorance isn't an excuse, the fact that you've never had the hatred directed at you personally isn't an excuse. I was ignorant too long. I largely still am, I'm only just beginning to learn. The facts

were kept from us in school and not mentioned in public discourse, but it's our responsibility to seek out the truth.

During the Civil war the choice was made not to disavow Bragg. Have we learned anything since then?

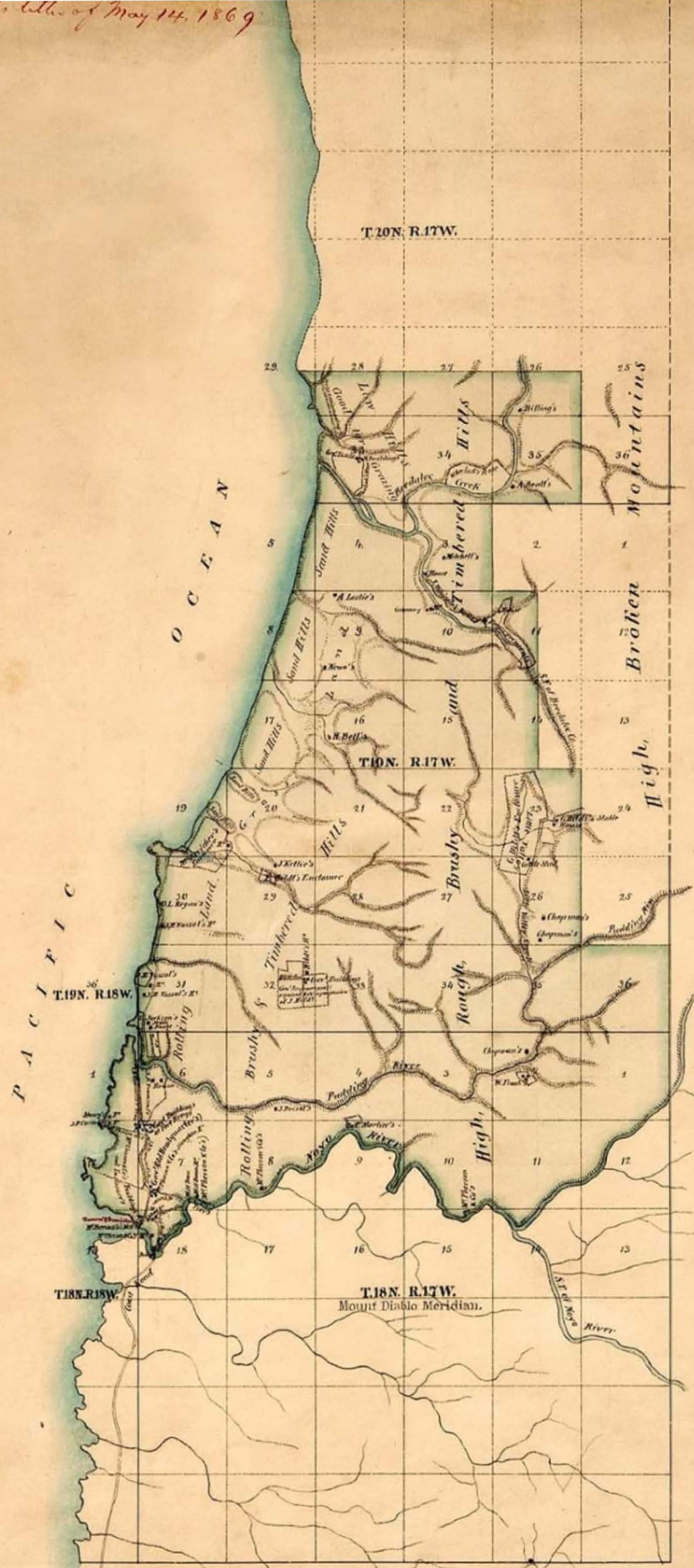
*I'm using the term Aboriginal because I was recently told that was the preference of one local group. Obviously they are not a monolith, and others might prefer different names. My intention is to be respectful and I'm happy to edit to include other terms if wanted.

57 0000
... General's Office of May 14, 1869

DIAGRAM
 showing the location of the
MENDOCINO INDIAN RESERVATION
 and the improvements
 made within its exterior boundaries (shaded green),
 Compiled from
 Maps of Surveys on file in U.S. Gen'l Office.
 The Reservation contains an Area of 24,930 1/2 Acres.
 Scale 80 Gs to 1 inch.

Surveyor General's Office,
 San Francisco, California,
 May 14th 1869.

Sherman Day
 U.S. Surv. Gen. Cal.^a



Mendocino Indian Reservation was ordered by the President, May 22 1856. has never been actually surveyed until 1868, '69.
 Note. See Act of Congress approved July 27 1868. U.S. Laws 1867 & '68 page 223 restoring Mendocino Indian Reservation to public lands, providing for the sale.
 Instructions to Sur. Gen'l of Augt 8th 1868 approved by Dept on the 11th Augt 1868 for the survey of ditto ditto
 see to R & R Augt 12 1868 & Jan'y 15 1869. in regard to this special duties under the law
 Survey of the Reservation approved by the Comm'r Gen'l Land Office June 15 1869
 See letter to Sur. Gen'l June 15 1869. to R & R of Humboldt Cal. for same date

Sheet 32 High file

Lemos, June

From: Cynthia Gair <Cgair@mcn.org>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:45 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Cynthia Gair
Subject: To City Council: in favor of renaming Fort Bragg

To the City Council:

I am strongly in favor of Fort Bragg being renamed. Although I live ~10 miles away (outside Mendocino), most of my shopping is done in Fort Bragg; most of the household services, entertainment, and activities I use are located in Fort Bragg. Many of my friends and associates live in or around Fort Bragg. My daily life is intertwined with the city; I care about its health and well-being.

The name Fort Bragg dishonors our community, conveying a connection with a disreputable slave-holding man; a man who never even lived in the area.

I can see no valid reason to NOT change the name at this time: the transition to a new name can be conducted gradually over time; the associated costs can likely be offset with grants from institutions looking to support current racial inclusion and reconciliation efforts. Many other name / monument / institutional changes are being made around the U.S. and our change would be part of that broad movement, recognizing that who and what communities honor affects their residents. We have a visitor-serving economy - I would think we'd want visitors to be attracted by a positive, non racist-affiliated name. In fact, having received some widespread publicity about the potential name-change, I believe Fort Bragg will take on a negative reputation if it does NOT change its name now.

I hope you will vote to start the process of changing Fort Bragg's name.

Thank you.

Cynthia Gair

June 19, 2020

Fort Bragg City Council,

The American flag is just a piece of fabric. We pledge allegiance to a piece of fabric. I do not mean to diminish the important symbolism of our flag. People have very strong feelings about the national significance of our flag. My purpose is to emphasize the absolute importance of symbolism in the human life. In addition to our flag, public statues and names are also powerful symbols. They recognize and honor people and acts that have contributed in positive ways to our country. If you cannot see that the issue of honoring and recognizing those who participated in the Confederacy that is currently under great scrutiny is critical in this moment in time, you are either not paying attention or you are delusional. Or you believe in the institution of slavery and the rights of white people to own slaves. Confederates were traitors to this country. Because of their actions, well over half a million people were killed. To hide behind the idea that removing statues and changing names is an attempt to erase history is ridiculous. History CANNOT be erased. But continuing to exalt the history of the perpetrators of the institution of slavery is itself a racist act. Continuing to exalt those who stole from, murdered and committed genocide on the original inhabitants of this land is a racist act. Have I, a white person benefited from all of these acts? Yes. I have. Removing statues and names will not eliminate racism. But it WILL be significant. It will be a powerful symbol that we reject the evil deeds of our ancestors. That we will learn about our complicity in the privilege we have inherited at the expense of people of color. It will be a powerful symbol for our future generations that we cared enough to take responsibility to begin to rectify and remove for their benefit, the injustice of slavery and racism that we still continue to perpetuate in our institutions.

I really hope you have the backbone to just change the name of Fort Bragg. It is time. You five could do this without delay. An ad hoc committee could choose the new name. The financial impact of this choice is not at all significant in light of the benefit. Business owners do not have to change their names. The name of Fort Bragg will still be part of our history. Just not our future. Using funding, as a reason not to do the right thing is just a lie. I urge you to change the name of our area.

Sincerely,
Carole White
PO Box 108
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: Theresa Anderson <theresaanderson486@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:59 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Public Comment regarding Fort Bragg Name Change

Hello June,

My name is Theresa and I am writing to you to provide public comment regarding the potential name change of Fort Bragg.

This should not be an issue that is brought to a vote on the upcoming ballot. This is something the City Council should work to take immediate action on. The time has come for us a society to stop promoting and uplifting those who have done harm to other humans. I call upon the city council to immediately form a task force whose responsibility is to discuss any and all options of changing the name of Fort Bragg. Any delay to this action continues to perpetuate racism within our community.

Best Regards,
Theresa

Lemos, June

From: Don Taylor <dtaylor@mcn.org>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:32 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

Hi June,

I would like to add my support of changing the name of Fort Bragg. I believe that Noyo would be a good fit. It is already in the USPS system and would be the easiest change. It has been associated with our area for generations and would honor the indigenous people.

I believe that all who share the name of Fort Bragg as our address should have a say in this matter. Hopefully, the city council can step up on this issue and not have to have years of study or pass the buck by having a vote on this issue.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this matter.

Don Taylor
30600 Simpson Lane
Fort Bragg, Ca 95437

707.964.8794

Lemos, June

From: Linda Rosengarten <tolinda@mcn.org>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:44 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Letter in Support of Name Change

Dear Mayor Lee and City Council Members,

I have lived within the Fort Bragg postal zone since 1981 and have longed for a name change since I learned the truth about Fort Bragg being named to memorialize the Confederate General Braxton Bragg, who committed treason to defend slavery and the systemic racism and dehumanization slavery embodies. I am now heartened by our current discussion about a name change for Fort Bragg.

A name change would not erase the history of Fort Bragg. History is not stagnant. We are born into an ongoing history; we are part of it. The name Fort Bragg will forever be part of our history. Added to that, this is one of those times in history those of us living today choose how we will be remembered tomorrow.

Will we be remembered as stubbornly adding to the painful history our current name symbolizes and exemplifies, or will we take the road of recognition, acknowledgement, and reconciliation? I advocate recognition, acknowledgement, and reconciliation.

If we stick to the notion that changing Fort Bragg to another name is inconvenient, as the argument regarding cost suggests, I propose we look at just three aspects of the cost of remaining "Fort Bragg."

- One, tourism dollars will decline because there are other places on the coast to visit that are not called Fort Bragg, a town too lazy and without enough imagination to figure out how to pay for reform.
- Two, the ignominy will only grow with global scrutiny and appall and become legacy. The subsequent blame game will create even more divisiveness. We have better things to do with our future.
- Three, if we do not seize this time in history to declare we are not supporters or enablers of racism, we will be forever cast as a bastion of it and be remembered for our refusal to acknowledge the truth.

Names such as Noyo and Pomo also have a history and tradition here, even longer than the establishment of a Fort, then City named after Confederate General Braxton Bragg, a Fort established to displace and eradicate the people who had already lived here for thousands of years.

Names such as Noyo and Pomo have archaeological, anthropological, and historical meaning, and value to all human culture. The army that came to secure the area's timber, and its supporters, handily and cynically stripped the indigenous peoples of these names, of their culture and history – an action typically taken invading armies and malevolent occupiers.

All who lived here before us, who live here now, and who will live here tomorrow share names such as Noyo and Pomo. These names contain within them a sense of place. They signify respect, and mirror history, tradition, and the beautiful environment we each call home.

It is not what we say, it is where our feet go. Are our feet going down in history agreeing with commemorating the actions of Confederate General Braxton Bragg? Or, are our feet going down the path of a future that credits us and our children?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda Rosengarten

--

Linda Rosengarten
16650 Mitchell Creek Drive
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
964-3782

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:01 PM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Change Fort Bragg's Name
Attachments: Change Fort Bragg's Name.docx; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Savannah Whaley <savannahwhaley42@gmail.com>
Date: June 19, 2020 at 1:12:51 PM PDT
To: "Lemos, June" <Jlemos@fortbragg.com>, "Albin-Smith, Tess" <Talbinsmith@fortbragg.com>, "Peters, Lindy" <LPeters2@fortbragg.com>, "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>, "Morsell-Haye, Jessica" <Jmorsellhay@fortbragg.com>, "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Change Fort Bragg's Name

Dear City Council Members and City Clerk,

Below (and in attached document) please find my letter in support of changing Fort Bragg's name.

Respectfully,
Savannah Whaley
Fort Bragg, CA

To: Fort Bragg City Council
Re: In support of changing Fort Bragg's name

June 19, 2020

Dear City Council members,

I am writing in support of the proposal to change the name of the City of Fort Bragg, CA.

Growing up in Fort Bragg, I benefited from the strong community ties and beautiful scenery found in this town. But I also witnessed racism towards my Black, Latino, and Asian-American friends and classmates. Racist slurs were common in the halls of Fort Bragg High School and beyond. My friends from out of town were confused when I told them that residents of Fort Bragg, California proudly displayed Confederate flags on their homes and cars. What legacy were they honoring? Racism and the racist history of the Confederacy should have no place in

this town, but they are unquestionably here. And nowhere is this more prominent than in the name of the town itself.

Braxton Bragg was a Confederate general who fought to preserve slavery and personally enslaved 105 people. Changing the name of this town is a small step and a fraction of what needs to happen to address 400+ years of anti-Blackness and oppression in this country, but there's absolutely no excuse for continuing to honor this brutal and racist legacy. Confederate statues and names are coming down around the country—this is long past time but there also won't be a better one. Thank you for initiating and considering this proposal.

Sincerely,

Savannah Whaley
Fort Bragg, CA

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:01 PM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Support for Fort Bragg name change

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jean Whipple <jlwhipple33@gmail.com>
Date: June 19, 2020 at 1:29:14 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>, "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>, "Albin-Smith, Tess" <Talbinsmith@fortbragg.com>, "Morsell-Haye, Jessica" <Jmorsellhayes@fortbragg.com>, "Peters, Lindy" <LPeters2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Support for Fort Bragg name change

Dear City Council members,

I am writing, as a Fort Bragg resident, in support of the proposal to change the name of the City of Fort Bragg, CA. There is no justification for our town to memorialize Braxton Bragg, a Confederate general who fought in the Civil War against the United States of America with the goal of preserving slavery.

I have been a resident of Fort Bragg for years, but I grew up in Georgia. I saw firsthand the legacy of slavery, Jim Crow laws, institutionalized racism, and terrorism directed against Black Americans. I saw the detrimental, compounding effect that those issues had on the African American children I went to school with, and the way that almost all low paying, low status jobs were held by Black workers. Poverty, separate neighborhoods, fewer opportunities, discrimination, and lower economic and social status were the norm for the Black communities in Atlanta and other places in the South. Since leaving Georgia, I have seen that same dynamic in cities and towns across the U.S., including here in California.

Fort Bragg is a wonderful town, and I believe that most people here are fair minded and open to equal opportunities for all. But as part of the United States, we are not excluded from the history of the Confederacy, slavery, and the Civil War. I have seen examples of tolerance and acceptance for people of different cultural and racial backgrounds here, and I have also seen and heard hate speech and hostile actions directly related to racial or other biases acted out here.

It is incorrect to say that racism does not exist here. It is also incorrect to say that we are too removed from the South to worry about being named after a Confederate general, or that our history and current environment are not connected to the deeper racial injustice and inequity that has existed in this country since its beginning. The current killings of unarmed Black people on the national news is just the present day extension of violence against Black people and other minorities that has been happening for our whole national history.

Having a town named after a person is a show of respect, approval, and reverence. Those sentiments should not be extended to a person like Braxton Bragg and all that he represented. It does not matter how long that injustice has existed, the time to correct it is now.

Respectfully,
Jean Whipple
Fort Bragg, CA

Lemos, June

From: a puri <greenspokes@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: yes. please form a name change task force.

Hello city council,

I'm a resident of the coast with a fort bragg address- and have been hoping for a name change opportunity to arrive once again -I was very disappointed in 2015 when the change request letter sent by the CA black legislators caucus was rudely dismissed by local city officials. It's time. It's time to release the legacy of exploitation, greed, and genocide. It's time to reach into our hearts and imaginations to grow into a healthy vibrant community that moves towards reconciliation with the harms done by colonizing, profit seeking forces.

I support the demands of the Mendocino BIPOC for a task force to work on the name change. I've read many others letters and don't want to repeat all the reasons. You know. We know. It's time. Be courageous.

Thank you,

Ami Puri

Lemos, June

From: Jessica Ehlers <jessica@jessicaehlers.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Meeting Monday

Hi there,

I wanted to weigh in on the decision to change the name of our little town.

I was initially hesitant to get on this bandwagon at this time since COVID-19 is decimating our already fragile economy and I was worried that the cost of making this change would literally bankrupt us as a town. However, I have come around. I mean, when is a good time to change a name? My daughter recently changed her name. It was a tedious process but her name no longer reflected who she is and wants to become. So I want a chance to vote to change the name of this place.

I've never been a fan of the name but I will be happy with whatever is decided on. What's important is that we have an opportunity to make a positive change for the past and the future to come that reflects sensitivity and even perhaps the beauty and majesty of this coast and this weird little hamlet.

Thank you for your time and your service.

Sincerely, Jessica Ehlers

--

Jessica Ehlers, LCSW
Pronouns: She/her
707-357-2808
[Psychology Today Profile](#)

Lemos, June

From: Ibo Thorbas <anciency18@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg's Change of Name
Attachments: 6-12-20 Thorbas Corespondence.pdf

Dear Ms Lemos

Please include my message as among those in favor of the change of the name of the City of Fort Bragg.

I am no longer a resident of Fort Bragg but very much in favor of the name change, and I notice prominently the comments of a descendant of the Bragg family also in favor of the change.

Attached is a copy of comments previously sent to the Board of Supervisors.

Ibo Thorbas

I know there is little reason to know my view as I have moved on from Mendocino County and Fort Bragg, and yet my pleasant experiences in northern California among you compel my attention today in a world vastly shrunken.

Please take it upon yourselves to rename the city of Fort Bragg, as a function of your respect for the obligation of diversity and inclusion so deeply present for us all now.

Ibo Thorbas

Committed Listening

Private Personal Counseling

[727-242-4464](tel:727-242-4464)

<https://systemicsolutiononly.blogspot.com/>

Lemos, June

From: Janet Ashford's laptop <jashford@jashford.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: name change

Hello June,

I am very much in favor of a name change for Fort Bragg, to do away with the association with a Confederate general. Personally, I think Noyo would be a good choice for a new name.

I do not live in the Fort Bragg city limits, but my daughter and brother do, and I shop there, have medical appointments there, etc.

Best,
Janet Ashford
Mendocino, CA

Lemos, June

From: Jim Tarbell <rtp@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Dennis Jecmen; Lillian Cartwright; Steve Antler; George Reinhardt; Shauna Heiselt; Agnes Woolsey; Maria Theresa Alvarez; Pat Karch; Ronald Munson; Pat Ferrero; Andy Wellspring; Linda Jupiter; Irene Malone; Bill Heil; Geri Morisky; Sue Boecker; Bette Goldfarb; Rio Elkhart; Garth Saalfield; Chris Sittig; Dalen Anderson; Susan Nutter; Barbara Fishelson; Priscilla & Larry Krasner; Carrie Durkee; Jef Schultz; Roslyn & Bruce Moore; Michael St. John; Bobb Young; Debra Jones; Diana Coryat; Patty Parks-Wasserman; Judy Tarbell; Jean Crosby; Vivian Duncan; Laurel Ellen; Rich White; Kathy White; Autumn Faber; Kirstin Soforeano; Slone Kerin; Peter McNamee; K.C. Kelly; Carol Hughey; Aileen Johnson; Mary Barrettini; Milly Harmon; Lynne Paschal
Subject: Decision to put Changing Fort Bragg's Name on the ballot.

Dear Members of the Fort Bragg City Council

The members of the Grassroots Institute's ongoing workshops has promoted public policies for the common good of the Northern Mendocino Coast for the last five years. The members of this year's workshops on Elections 2020: Creating Our Future have considered the advisability of your holding an election to decide if the City of Fort Bragg should change its name. After much deliberation on the historical moment we are in, the long debate over the harms caused by slavery and the Confederacy, the inherent costs and time to actually change the name and the long-time connection that the residents of Fort Bragg have to the name, we give our unanimous support to the Fort Bragg City Council putting this question before the voters. Thank you for our attention to this and let us know if you have any questions.

Jim Tarbell

Carrie Durkee and all the member of the Grassroots Insitute's workshops on Elections 2020.

June 19, 2020

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I insist the council support the immediate creation of a task force to discuss the renaming the city of Fort Bragg to a just and inclusive name.

I believe the task force needs to include members from indigenous tribes to speak on to how to best honor their ancestors, whose land was stolen to create the town of Fort Bragg, and how to better include them in all future city discussions.

I believe the task force needs to include African Americans, to speak on how best to honor their ancestors who were enslaved to build the United States, and to speak on how to best include their voices and the voices of people of color in all future city discussions.

The task force should investigate and explore options to re-dedicate/re-designate/"re-name" the namesake from slaveholder and Confederate general/US traitor Braxton Bragg. King County, Washington, enacted a similar "renaming" in 1986, renaming their county from a slaveholder, to being named after Dr. Martin Luther King (link to the motion of February 12, 1986: <https://www.kingcounty.gov/elected/executive/equity-social-justice/mlk/other-resources/motion-6461.aspx>)

I am a nine-year resident of Fort Bragg, and I believe anyone who lives inside or outside the city limits has a right to a voice on this issue. A family who has lived here for six generations has no more or less "right" to the future of Fort Bragg than a person who moved here last year to raise their child in a small community, to retire to our beautiful scenery, or to rebuild after losing their last hometown due to devastating wildfires. The belief that some citizens are more deserving of rights than others is at the crux of why our country has now reached this long overdue moment of racial reckoning with our oppressive and violent history against indigenous peoples and African Americans and other people of color.

A name change of our beautiful town of Fort Bragg does not "erase history". It is impossible to erase history, or change history, or fix history. It is NOT impossible, however, to hear the voices of people of color and include them at the table where they have too long been denied a seat. It is NOT impossible to uphold the ideals of equality and racial justice and to create a town atmosphere where ALL people feel included and safe, and move together toward a socially just future.

Sincerely,

Emily McPhail
PO Box 1243
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
emilytrip@hotmail.com

Lemos, June

From: mstrong@willitsonline.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:12 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Item 8A on Council Agenda

Dear Council Members,

I was a Ft. Bragg resident in the 90's and continue to live in Mendocino County, and visit the coast frequently, ever since. I support a name change for the city. There was never any rationale for being named after a confederate general, nor the same name as an army base elsewhere. It should long ago have been changed, but in today's heightened awareness, it is especially important to stop glorifying the confederacy! I think "Noyo" or any variation on that would be a fine name. Give folks a couple years to change their stationery, etc. and we'll all be happier!

Thank you.

Madge Strong

39 Mill Creek Dr. Willits CA 95490

Lemos, June

From: Rebecka Dickson <rebecka.dickson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

When it came time to pick a place in the country to retire we were hesitant to even consider visiting Fort Bragg even though on paper it looked like the perfect place for us. Fort Bragg made the town sound like a Southern military base and that is certainly not a place to retire!

We visited anyway and fell in love.

I am wondering how many other people hesitate even visiting because of the name? After 18 months we know we made the right choice coming here. Fort Bragg has everything we need but I think we need to look to the future

and name the town in a way that makes it inviting and truly reflects what our beautiful town has to offer.

Thank you,

Rebecka Dickson

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From: Laura Lind <lindesign@mcn.org>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:21 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg Name Change

Hi June,

Please add my voice to the Council meeting Monday. It is time to change our town's name. Not only do we not want to be named after such a person as Bragg, he was never here and has nothing to do with our history.

Some TOURISTS may shun our community if we do not change the name. As I'm sure the Council is aware, articles about us are already appearing in newspapers like the L.A. Times, so we're in the spotlight, further supporting our need to do the right thing.

NAME RECOMMENDATION: Noyo or even Noyo Harbor, since the U.S. Post Office already has Noyo down for zip code 95437. And it was used as a Pomo name.

EXPENSE: If just changed to Noyo or Noyo Harbor, businesses could continue using existing stationery, etc. and just make the change when they reorder. For city signage, etc., a fundraiser could be set up, a method to try before an unpopular tax increase is implemented. Then those of us who can donate would be helping those who can't afford more expense.

VOTING: It would be best if this did not wait for the November election, but be done soon to show that we're serious in making the change. However the change is implemented, it would be very wrong to limit decisions to the city limits. ALL OF US WHO HAVE A FORT BRAGG ADDRESS should be consulted.

Thank you for your attention. If there's anything I can do to help with the change, please do not hesitate to ask.

Laura Lind
30600 Simpson Lane
Noyo Harbor, CA 95437
707-964-8794

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Sincerely,

Emily McPhail
PO Box 1243
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
emilytrip@hotmail.com

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From: mstrong@willitsonline.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:12 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Item 8A on Council Agenda

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39 Mill Creek Dr. Willits CA 95490

Lemos, June

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Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Lemos, June
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Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:21 AM
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Laura Lind
30600 Simpson Lane
Noyo Harbor, CA 95437
707-964-8794

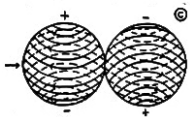
Lemos, June

From: Anne Maureen McKeating <director@larryspringmuseum.org>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Miller, Tabatha; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Lee, Will; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: For the record / Name change

There is no turning back from this moment. We need to radically change how we show up in the world or we will economically, culturally, and emotionally die. Why would anyone want to visit or move to a place that refuses to let go of rigid and harmful icons and ideas? Letting go is sometimes painful, but this work needs to be done. If we refuse, we will crumble (and we are well on our way). There is no choice.

I support the name change and ask that you consult with the Pomo regarding what the name is changed to, before putting it to a public ballot.

Anne Maureen McKeating



Anne Maureen McKeating

Executive Director

707 962 3131

she/her/hers

larryspringmuseum.org

The Larry Spring Museum is a registered 501(c) (3) organization EIN #32-0604596
A guest on traditional, unceded Pomo land

Lemos, June

From: Gisele Reaney <gcellcartoons@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Please change the name to Noyo

Hi June,

I support the name change of Fort Bragg to Noyo, not as a way to erase history, but as an acknowledgment that the history of the fort, was a sad undoing for many of the native peoples who called our town their home.

I also feel we should not continue to honor Braxton Bragg, who fought for the right to continue slave ownership in the US, by having our town named after him.

Rather than erase history, I hope this will enhance our history, as we send a clear message to future generations how the people of Fort Bragg took a step towards race equality.

People know the name Noyo.

I would be supportive of other name changes as well.

--

Gisele Reaney Darcy

(707) 813-2007

<https://www.facebook.com/giselementry>

giselementry@facebook.com

<https://twitter.com/giselementry>

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:58 AM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Name suggestion

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Barrett Lyon <blyon@netography.com>
Date: June 19, 2020 at 8:56:04 AM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Name suggestion

Mr. Mayor... as a California resident and a fan of your city I'd like to suggest an idea for new name for your city: Fort George or Fort Floyd

Keeping "Fort" continues the history and adding a progressive name would be powerful.

Just a suggestion.

Cheers,

Barrett Lyon
CEO
Netography, Inc
C: +1.650.353.9999

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:32 AM
To: Miller, Tabatha; Lemos, June; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Fort Bragg Name Change - Please!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rich Francis <rich@francis.com>
Date: June 19, 2020 at 7:21:27 AM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Fort Bragg Name Change - Please!
Reply-To: Rich Francis <rich@francis.com>

Mr Lee:

I'm a 22 year resident of Fort Bragg living in Cleone and am in strong agreement with the Councils direction in changing the name of the city. From Fort Bragg, to a more appropriate name like MacKerricher City or Cleone, or Noyo (my favorite since it honors those that were here first) or almost any other name than that of a racist, slave owning, unsuccessful, and treasonous military figure. I (along with many, many others I've discovered along the way) have always told people I live in Cleone and not Fort Bragg.

Please don't cop out and simply table the issue because of assumptions that most of the residents think the current name is fine....it isn't and most agree it isn't. Do a simple street survey (not a Facebook survey since the majority of your voting class constituents aren't even on or believe in Facebook anymore) and you'll discover as I have that the name brings shame and embarrassment. Same reasoning behind removing public confederate statues to museums, the banning of symbols that represent hate and racism, the renaming of military bases (in particular Fort Bragg, North Carolina since this military figure was factually one of, if not 'the' worst example of a 'leader') and the removal of most C. Columbus statues across the United States.

In the same spirit, you should not let the predictable expense of such a name change deter you. The expense is inevitable and should already be accounted for in your business model.

The expected expenses for this name change are insignificant when you realize and then understand the reason for the change.

Can you imagine the costs involved with finally correcting our History books to correctly reflect the Civil War and Columbus' inappropriate and disgraceful actions? Yet it must be and is going to be done. Why, because it's the right thing to do and that is the only reason you should need.

You cannot change the past but you can do something about the future!

This is not about changing history; it's about recognizing errors and failures and correcting those errors and reaping successes from those failures. It's about honoring our past and not about honoring or glorifying dishonorable people with legacies they do not deserve.

Even Newsom thinks it's about time to do something here. Make the change yourself (it is indeed within your power) or, if you can't come to an agreement, at least get it on the ballot this year so we, the people, can decide.

Next Tuesday, the 22nd of June, at your Council meeting and more than any time in the past, is the right time to make this happen. Carpe Diem!

Do us P R O U D ! ! !

Rich Francis

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:06 AM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Commending your stance

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Chadd Everone <administration@californiavalleymiwok.com>
Date: June 18, 2020 at 6:42:09 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Commending your stance

Mayor Lee:

I commend your stance on changing the name of Ft. Bragg. I would keep it; but let the citizens of the community decide and maybe people should propose and vote on alternative names rather than deconstruct history.

The issue of having been a slave holder is anachronistic. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, etc. had slaves. Throughout history all countries had slaves, serf, and indentured servants. Slaves were the norm (80%+) of the Roman Empire. African slaves were captured by other African tribes, sold to Arab traders who took them to the coast to be sold to the English and exported. Brutal business for sure! Slave trading areas are big tourist attractions in Nigeria. American Indians had slaves.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavery_among_Native_Americans_in_the_United_States

The Utes used to sweep down the Eastern ridge of the Sierras, capture and enslave Indians along the way, drag them to the California coast and sell them the Catholic missions. Should the Ute Indian Tribe have their federal recognition taken from them?

I would not be surprised if this protest were not another attempt by foreign backers to sow dissension among Americans. Interesting to investigate that angle.

You have a nice town, keep it that way. Best wishes, Chadd

Lemos, June

From: Leslie Kashiwada <kashiwa@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:22 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Miller, Tabatha
Subject: Agenda Item 8A

Greetings,

I am not able to attend the City Council meeting tonight, but wanted to express my view on Agenda Item 8A: Regarding Submitting to the Voters a Local Ballot Measure Changing the Name of the City of Fort Bragg

While I would like to see the name of Fort Bragg changed, I think a ballot measure is not a particularly good way to approach the issue. I fully support the demands outlined by MendoCoast BIPOC. In particular, Sovereign Native Pomo must be allowed to speak to this issue, and we must listen to what they have to say.

Option 4 in the list of recommended actions: Establish a citizen commission to evaluate the best way forward, seems to most closely fit with the MendoCoast BIPOC demands. This list further outlines:

- The Sovereign Native Pomo be given some kind of final say or veto

- The commission be predominantly composed of BIPOC

- The commission members be offered a stipend

- The City Manager, Tabatha Miller and Councilmember Jessica Morsell-Haye participate as non-voting observers/participants

- The commission discuss any and all options for changing the name (including keeping it)

- The commission hold educational workshops on racial justice

This is to ensure that any action taken isn't just a superficial "feel good" moment with no real change,

- The commission meetings be recorded (and available to watch online at a later date).

A ballot measure and/or citizen's initiative, especially on such a short timeline, will not allow for full exploration of this issue in a careful, transparent, and fair manner. In addition, this will affect everyone who lives in the 95437 area code, not just those residing in city limits, or those who own businesses in Fort Bragg, but who do not reside within city limits. That means a local ballot measure or citizen's initiative will not be representative of the larger community. I'd rather have a commission explore the issues in all their rich complexity and bring back recommendations for the City Council, and perhaps the County Board of Supervisors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Leslie Kashiwada, PhD
17050 Boice Lane
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:04 AM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: Vote on City name . . .

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Skinner <thecypressnest@mcn.org>
Date: June 18, 2020 at 10:05:55 PM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: Vote on City name . . .

Mayor,

It occurred to me that if you vote as usual, with those in the City limits, then you will be denying a great many folks with the Fort Bragg, 95437 address a voice in whether there City name should be changed. Some of those will be businesses, which have a huge money angle to look at, not to mention their name recognition .

A vote for the holders of our city's name with the area code 95437 would be much more fair.

Just a thought . . . I live in the county.

John Skinner

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:01 AM
To: Lemos, June; Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal
Subject: Fwd: City name change

Please add to public record and meeting packet.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elliott Brooks <eli.bunyan@gmail.com>
Date: June 19, 2020 at 2:14:20 AM PDT
To: "Lee, Will" <Wlee@fortbragg.com>
Subject: City name change

As a resident of Fort Bragg, city limit voter, and business owner, I am writing to express my support of the change of the city's name from Fort Bragg Ca to Noyo Ca. I hope that we can see it put on the ballot and support the city council voting for approval.

Thank you,
Elliott Brooks

Lemos, June

From: mendoinmotion <mendoinmotion@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 9:53 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name change

Change it in a positive way, name it George Floyd.
Pauly

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

Lemos, June

From: Martin Nakatani <badbadtmartini@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 9:15 PM
To: Lemos, June
Cc: Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy; Lee, Will; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Norvell, Bernie
Subject: City name change

Dear City Council Members,

You should definitively and unanimously vote to change the name of our city. Anything less would be a proclamation that our town stands for racism and historical genocide.

If the only and/or best argument for keeping the name of our city is because of economic concerns, I ask each of you; are you willing to put a price on humanity and morality? Are you a leader or a bystander? What message and legacy do you wish to pass on to your children, friends, family, community, visitors, the world?

Martin Nakatani

Fort Bragg resident

Lemos, June

From: Laurie, Hill <laru@mcn.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 7:52 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

I support changing the name. I am not proud of this man Captain Bragg. I see no reason to name a town after him. I would however like to honor the Indian tribes that this coast was home to, and give the town a name more meaningful and one to be proud of. Laurie Hill

--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

Lemos, June

From: Lisa Carrillo <lisac518@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 7:14 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: RE: City Name change

Let's be futurists. Civil rights progress in iterative steps over multi-year cycles, from voting, to fair treatment, to equal pay and so on. The issue of cities with confederate names will cycle again and again. Those delaying the change will eventually be considered backward and will in all probability finally be changed.

Given that Fort Bragg, NC, will at times be on the national stage, the name Fort Bragg will not be able to sneak under the radar.

The name Fort Bragg aligns with security elements that have in recent years been accused of mistreatment of Blacks, immigrants, Moslems, etc. It aligns with surveillance and control rather than what we are, a welcoming inclusive city. As minorities become majorities in our society, clearly expressing this inclusivity becomes all the more imperative.

A new generation of tourists and employees working from home comes of age every decade. Fort Bragg often doesn't make the short list with a first impression of a walled, decommissioned military base, think Alamo. A positive first impression of something nautical and poetic like Noyo Harbor, or something alluding to natural beauty, like Gardenia, would create enough momentum to have these tourists more thoroughly investigate our offerings.

Tourists influence other tourists, like compounding interest. A small investment now makes a big difference in numbers of tourists in the future.

For our financial future, we want to be best positioned to keep people coming to our city. Decisions now may seem small, but their repercussions are very large in 50 years and huge in 100 years. We can now optimally position ourselves to align with nature and beauty and welcome or be forced to change our name at some future date when we are already long behind the wave.

Lisa Carrillo, MBA former marketing manager for Fortune 100 companies

Dear Mayor and City Council Member Will Lee,

Historical injustices to Black people call for a renaming of the City of Fort Bragg. The time is now.

Please put this on your agenda for this Tuesday's City Council meeting, and support this on your November ballot.

There is no longer time to celebrate Civil War Generals who slaughtered innocent black lives, and personally enslaved hundreds of innocent black people.

Your city has been thinking about changing its' name for a long time.... the time has arrived to do something.

That time is now!

This is one of those rare moments, a potentially historical, monumental opportunity to correct the wrong doings of those who have transgressed on black slaves in the civil war.

This is a time of personal reflection, where those with financial privilege, those with white privilege, and especially those with white, male, heterosexual privilege need to look inward and ask the difficult questions for the opportunity to grow and make an inclusive world for the future.

Your local business owners with names that are the city, such as Fort Bragg Plumbing, have the same opportunity for self-reflection, as do your city dwellers. Everyone gets to ask themselves: Who do we want to be known as? Who do we want to honor? Are we people who celebrate slave owners, or are we people who want to celebrate the rights of all people? Do we want our city to be inviting to all races or do we want Black people from this day forward to know we had this opportunity and decided to do nothing?

The time is now for the city leadership to lead its' people! I implore you!

I am a concerned California citizen who vows to never visit your city if this change doesn't happen.



Carol Lee Kole

818 - 8th Street

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2020

**CITY OF FORT BRAGG
CITY CLERK**

Lemos, June

From: Anna Levy <annalevy2005@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:32 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: In favor of changing the name of Fort Bragg

To the City Council of Fort Bragg:

As a resident of Fort Bragg, I am in support of changing the city's name. Honoring someone who stood for racism is a disservice to all who live here, and sends a particularly strong, negative message to anyone who identifies as a person of color. I have found this community to be one that is overwhelmingly compassionate, thoughtful, and warm, and though it is just a start, I believe that changing our name to reflect the character of our town will benefit us significantly in the long run.

Sincerely,

Anna Levy
120 S Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: Kirk O'Dwyer <Odwyerk@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 3:00 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: June 22nd Special City Council Meeting,

Good Afternoon,

please log this as public comment regarding : Agenda Item 8A : 8A.
20-774 Conduct City Council Discussion and Provide Direction to Staff Regarding Submitting to the Voters a Local Ballot Measure Changing the Name of the City of Fort Bragg

Stance : Public Comment 8B - Oppose With nuance.

Summary :
Oppose Name Change
Neutral on Rededication for a Union Officer Bragg If anything on November ballot, put Rededication there.

Greetings,

My name is Kirk O'Dwyer,
I am a city resident, 164 Woodland Drive, Fort Bragg CA.

Section 1 : Oppose Name Change, Why.

To me, this a place name... I would oppose changing it unless there is clear and evident benefit to doing so. Changing the name will not raise the graduation rate, provide blue collar jobs, help get a CoGen small log sawmill, provide more secure water, or help with the social issues of homelessness.

I strongly believe changing the name will lead to a couple days of smug self satisfaction and then be forgotten, while the divisiveness and diversion of energies will persist until November and beyond.

This is not a case of someone being celebrated, promoted, there are no parades for him, no statues, no clan rallies, it was not named in the Southern revisionist period as an ode to the Lost Cause, Those would all be valid reasons to rename the town.

It was named prior to the Confederacy ever existing, for someone that had a hand in the war that took California from Mexico and made it part of the US.
He wasn't a good guy. He'd dead. Changing the name will not teach him a lesson or do much of anything actually useful.

Section 2: Vote Scheduling.

This came up in 2015?

There is a petition process to put it on the ballot?

Yet in 5years folks haven't used that process?

And so the Mayor decides to short circuit the process because they hadn't had time to get it on the ballot?

They have had YEARS.

Looking at the "Support" emails, some of those folks are locals, a large number are not.

Section 3: Alternatives

The city staff came up with the idea of rededicating the town to a different Bragg, a Union officer.

I'm ok with that.

I don't care which old dead guy named Bragg it's dedicated for.

So...if you feel overwhelmed with the need to do SOMETHING..... Stick THAT on the November ballot if you put anything on it.

That would sever any Confederate link,

and leave the town name change petition process alone so if folks want that, they have to go through that process.

Respectfully,

Kirk O'Dwyer

Lemos, June

From: a puri <greenspokes@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:54 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: yes- please form a name change task force

Hello city council,

I'm a resident of the coast with a fort bragg address- and have been hoping for a name change opportunity to arrive once again -I was very disappointed in 2015 when the change request letter sent by the CA black legislators caucus was rudely dismissed by local city officials. It's time. It's time to release the legacy of exploitation, greed, and genocide. It's time to reach into our hearts and imaginations to grow into a healthy vibrant community that moves towards reconciliation with the harms done by colonizing, profit seeking forces.

I support the demands of the Mendocino BIPOC for a task force to work on the name change. I've read many others letters and don't want to repeat all the reasons. You know. We know. It's time. Be courageous.

Thank you,

Ami Puri

Lemos, June

From: brianandnancystratton <brianandnancystratton@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:34 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Fort Bragg name change.

Source; Ukiah Daily Journal

June 21, 2020

Suggest Civil War Union General Edward Stuyvesant Bragg.

Served U.S. House of Representatives, and had a diplomatic career.

February 20, 1827 -

June 20, 1912

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Lemos, June

From: Susana Hennessey Lavery <henlav1@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:53 AM
To: City Clerk
Cc: henlav1@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Support for Name Change for Fort Bragg

Date: June 20, 2020

RE: Support for name change for Fort Bragg

Dear Members of the City Council,

As residents of Fort Bragg we strongly urge you to take steps to change its name. As already pointed out, the town's namesake was not only a slave owner and slave advocate, but also fought as a General against President Abraham Lincoln.

Numerous other entities are now moving in this direction including renaming the other Fort Bragg in North Carolina, removing statues of people that committed genocide against indigenous peoples and removing those that were involved in slavery. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said this as she ordered the removal of portraits of House speakers who served in the confederacy, "There is no room...for memorializing men who embody the violent bigotry and grotesque racism of the Confederacy"

Our schools are now teaching about the history of slavery, systemic racism, all forms of discrimination and oppression. We would be pained to know that students here are being taught that this town was named after General Bragg (as such honoring a man who symbolizes slavery), that we had a chance to do the right thing and change the name, but we didn't. Children and young people understand concepts of fairness, justice and equality and are particularly aware of these concepts now. Changing the name would be an important and valuable lesson for their generation that past injustices can be recognized and steps can be taken towards a world that is fair, kind, and just with an equal place for all of us.

Please support the name change.

Sincerely,

Susana and Bobby Hennessey Lavery
209 North Sanderson Way
Fort Bragg, California 95437

Susana Hennessey Lavery

Lemos, June

From: Adele Horne <adelehorne@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:46 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Comments in support of changing the name of Fort Bragg (for June 22nd city council meeting)

It's time for our city to change its name. In the wake of the murder of George Floyd, the United States is grappling with the legacy of slavery and racism in ways that we have not done before and that are long overdue. Reverberations are being felt all over the world. Names and monuments that honor the Confederacy and slave traders are being removed. We can either be on the right side of history, or the wrong side. The eyes of the world are upon us, and we'll have to live with whatever decision we make for a long time.

I understand that for some who were born and raised in this town, the prospect of a name change is painful. Change can be difficult, especially when it has to do with something as fundamental as identity. But what kind of identity do we want to present to the rest of the world? If we choose to change a name that honors a Confederate general to one that means something related to our local area, we will be forging our own destiny and signaling to the world that we are a town that welcomes residents and visitors of all ethnicities.

I urge the city council to adopt a resolution to change the name of the town and to schedule a task force to engage with the community to brainstorm a new name. A first step for this task force would be to speak with the local indigenous community and hear their thoughts on possible names for the town.

I would like to emphasize that the idea of rededicating the town to a different person by the name of Bragg feels like the wrong response. It is a whitewashing and sidestepping of the issues that we should have the courage to face head on.

Sincerely,
Adele Horne
219 N. Sanderson Way
Fort Bragg CA 95437

Lemos, June

From: moatney@mcn.org
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:12 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: public comment for Monday's City Council meeting
Attachments: Mark Oatney- letter in support of name change.docx

Hello

I would like to submit the attached letter to be read at Monday's City Council meeting, at which the proposed name change for Fort Bragg will be considered.

Please confirm that you've received this and that my letter will be read (I'm not sure how all this works, so I appreciate you making sure I've done everything correctly)

Thanks!
Mark Oatney

This debate should not be about “Braxton Bragg” and “Southern Slavery.” It should be about white supremacy and slavery right here in Fort Bragg. Our town should be renamed as a rejection of white supremacy, and renamed in honor of the many Pomo victims.

Specifically at the Mendocino Indian Reservation, which became Fort Bragg, there were numerous contemporary reports of the theft of Indian children to be sold into slavery (see Lieutenant Edward Dillon’s report May 31 1861; Hutching’s California Magazine October 1858; the Placer Herald May 24 1862; Poughkeepsie Journal March 3 1860).

California’s first legislature made the enslavement of Indian children legal in 1850 (see An Act for the Government and Protection of Indians). Enslaved children were widespread in our region: Ukiah resident Helen Carpenter wrote that “there were few families that did not have from one to three Indian children.” These laws were not rescinded until Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

Our locals also wrote (May 1, 1855) to threaten a “war of extermination,” the same phrase used earlier by California’s first Governor, Peter Burnett, a Southerner and former slave owner. Fortunately, it appears that our town was not among the many towns in Northern California offering bounties for Indian scalps or heads (these municipal expenses were reimbursed by the state). Things were much worse elsewhere in the county, especially with the “Mendocino Indian War” in Round Valley. And then there are the massacres of Wiyots along the Eel River and Pomo at Bloody Island in Clear Lake. (Thank goodness we don’t live in Kelseyville, named after the Kelsey brothers who instigated so much violence-- if any name should be changed, it should start there!)

That rural America, and Fort Bragg and Mendocino County, are so overwhelmingly white is not by accident. It was by genocide. There were massacres in our region far greater than Wounded Knee or the Tulsa race massacre. As in Tulsa, our children went many generations without being taught our painful history. Unlike Tulsa, this whitewash of history continues here to this day. The genocide and enslavement of the Pomo remains invisible. This institutional ignorance is, I believe, a big part of why changing the name of Fort Bragg seems so silly to so many.

Mark Oatney
Fort Bragg resident

Lemos, June

From: Bruce Rogerson <lighthouseguy@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 9:40 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Fort Bragg Naming
Attachments: Fort Bragg Naming.docx

Sent from my iPad

Renaming Fort Bragg

I have been following this issue on social media and today in the Advocate. The rush to make a name change is part of the national feel good crusade to obliterate any object or name associated with the Confederate side of the Civil War. According to more than one letter in the Advocate, it is also to be applied to all those historical figures involved in the oppression, dispossession of lands and killings on Native Americans over the centuries. I really question how this action will change the underlying level of racism in this nation to any meaningful extent.

As was explained in the Advocate editorial, the naming of the Fort established in 1857 by Lt. Gibson in recognition of the service of Major Braxton Bragg in the Mexican American War took place well before Bragg's less than sterling service to the confederacy in the Civil War of 1861 to 1865. It was also Lt. Gibson, by then a senior retired army officer, who chose, when asked by the Army, to name the new military base in North Carolina for Braxton Bragg in 1917.

Several correspondents have expressed a concern that the Fort Bragg name, if not changed, might discourage visitors and tourists from coming to the area. From observations this week around town and on the beaches and trails, that is certainly not evident so far. Waiting in the traffic backups north of town, there were any number of RVs traveling north and south.

Many comments also identified the major costs to the city of the name change and how it will be funded in this period of the Covid19 emergency when city expenses are significant and revenue severely impacted.

The mayor has convened a meeting next week to address the name change issue and discuss adding the decision to the November ballot. I would point out that this will limit the decision to those registered voters within the bounds of the city limits. I and probably hundreds, if not a thousand or more, do not live in the city boundaries but have a home address and zip code of Fort Bragg, CA 95437. I would submit that all of these additional households should have a say in this decision, one way or the other.

At this moment, I am leaning to oppose any motion to change the name at this time.

Respectively submitted,

Bruce Rogerson.

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 7:26 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Barbara
Last Name	Benedetti
Address1	31781 Johnson Lane
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Fort Bragg
State	Ca
Zip	95437
Phone Number	7072721010
Email Address	ftbraggal@gmail.com
(Section Break)	
Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	My husband, Pete Benedetti, and I are very much in favor of your actions, and decision about how to handle the ridiculous situation about changing our towns name. Keep up the good work!

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:31 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Chance
Last Name	Balson
Address1	110 HOWLAND CT
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	FORT BRAGG
State	Select One
Zip	95437
Phone Number	7079623169
Email Address	cwbalson@outlook.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
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Question / Comment	<p>To my fellow citizens and representatives, I am 34 years old and was born and raised in this town. When I first learned the origin story of my community I was horrified. Like the rest of this nation this land was paid for for the blood of innocent people. People who have lost not only their land, but their culture, their heritage. People, who still live in this community and who's voices are not only often ignored, but silenced. I believe that we should remove the vile and racist name of this town and let our First Nations family, who inhabited and still inhabit this land, have the final say in the name of this place. This would be at least a small step in the right direction of honoring the dignity of all peoples so our community can begin walking together, in a good way. As a person of indigenous ancestry, having to reside in a town who's name is representative of racism and genocide, leaves me</p>
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feeling disgusted. I appreciate the opportunity to confront these dark strings of our past and may we cut them and weave a future of unity through diversity. Thank you for this consideration.

Chance Balson

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:55 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Destiny
Last Name	Laird
Address1	110 HOWLAND CT
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	FORT BRAGG
State	California
Zip	95437-3949
Phone Number	7079623169
Email Address	LunariumApothecaria@outlook.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
---------------------------------	--------------

Question / Comment	<p>In Regards to the city name change it is my feeling that it is time to no longer celebrate the atrocities of history and those who inflicted them. This town stands in commemoration of a genocide, and a man who not only commanded this horrendous act, but who advocated and fought for the enslavement of African american and the Indigenous people, People who today make up a portion of our community, by no power other than perseverance of their own spirits. The name of this city was meant to honor a man of no honor, and to be frank it sickens me. We would best acknowledge the pasts horrors, and honor the path of reparations by not only changing the name, but by seeking the council of the first nations of this coast in choosing a new one. I appreciate this beauty full community, and I trust in it to do what is right! -Destiny R. Laird</p>
--------------------	---

a life long local, mother of three children who look to us for guidance in what is right,and business owner.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:48 PM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Selena
Last Name	Rowan
Address1	PO Box 913
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Laytonville
State	CA
Zip	95454
Phone Number	707 273 7663
Email Address	selenarowan@gmail.com

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	As a Mendocino county resident I support the renaming of Fort Bragg and think it is a critical step to honor the history of the indigenous people of this area. This community was founded on the blood of the oppressed Pomo people and we are stained by the evil deeds of the white Americans who founded that fort and committed those atrocious acts. We can no longer base the identity of this city on such a dishonorable person as was Bragg and the fort named after him.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:11 AM
To: City Council; Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Peters, Lindy; Albin-Smith, Tess; Morsell-Haye, Jessica
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Us (Dropdown)

Contact Us (Dropdown)

First Name	Marie
Last Name	Weddle
Address1	8 Smith St
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Cumberland
State	MD
Zip	21502
Phone Number	517-410-1976
Email Address	Mweddle@allegany.edu

(Section Break)

Whom would you like to contact?	City Council
Question / Comment	I was born and raised in Fort Bragg, and without going into too much about how I feel like I should have a say in the matter (I'm not a current resident but have land inheritance there), I just wanted to support the option of a name change that's actually more reflective of our true heritage on the Coast. Not sure why people are so attached to the name Fort Bragg other than the fact they don't want things to change from time to time. It could be a great opportunity.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Lemos, June

From: Scott Menzies <scott.m.menzies@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 10:22 AM
To: Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy; Norvell, Bernie; Lee, Will
Cc: Lemos, June; Sierra Wooten
Subject: Fwd: sigs
Attachments: image20200623_095218266.jpg; Petition_MendoCoast BIPOC_City of Fort Bragg Name Change_Text Only.pdf

Mayor and Members of the City Council,

Thank you for your time last night listening to the many, many, many, MANY people giving their perspectives on the name change. It's great to see folks out and speaking their peace. That said, I know it's fatiguing, to say the least. I thank you, too, for hearing the need for a conversation and choosing to create a Task Force to engage in that larger conversation around this. This isn't just about a name.

And thank you, too, for giving the Native folk a dedicated 15 minutes at the beginning.

Attached is the MendoCoast BIPOC petition to form a Task Force, as well as an image of the hardcopy signatures we collected (contact info redacted).

There were 54 unique hardcopy signatures, and 781 Change.org signatures. So that means at least 727 unique signatures, if ALL hardcopy ones were doubles online, and 835 if none were doubles (we've not had time to check for doubles, yet.)

Thank you for your service,
Scott

Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg

Prepared by the Mendocino Coast Progressive Action Network for MendoCoast BIPOC (6/14/20)

Progressive leadership anywhere benefits everyone and everything... everywhere.

The brutal murder of George Floyd by a white police officer on Memorial Day in Minneapolis has sparked action and renewed calls for racial justice around the country. The hundreds of sites still named after Confederate generals who fought to preserve slavery, including schools, monuments, military bases, and cities, are salt in the wounds of those who still suffer the legacy of slavery, Native American genocide, and the ongoing systemic racism related to both.

Retired Army General David Petraeus has called for the retiring of military base names of Confederate leaders¹, including Fort Bragg, NC, named after Braxton Bragg, "The most hated man of the Confederacy"² - a man who personally owned 105 slaves, fought to preserve the practice of slavery, and was generally regarded as an incompetent and inept military officer.

On 6/12, our City announced its intention to discuss placing a November ballot measure to change the City's name.³

However, we the undersigned believe that it is the Council's responsibility to begin this process immediately - not put what is a Civil Rights and Social Justice issue to a vote. It's time for courageous and concrete action and leadership. Putting this issue to a vote is not that action. Passing the buck is not that leadership. It is not appropriate to put up for a vote a name that causes real harm to traumatized people right here and right now.

Therefore, we respectfully demand that the Council vote to immediately form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name, composed of thoughtful, informed, and emotionally-intelligent residents. We demand it include representation from all communities, especially the black folk for whom the name Bragg represents the legacy of slavery and the Native folk whose land was taken for the original military outpost.

Racist monuments are literally falling at an unprecedented rate, taken down by American citizens fed up with the glorification of our racist history. We must reckon with that same racism embodied in our City's name.

If this Council does not move to change our name, it will be choosing to perpetuate the energy of a history of slavery and genocide. This Council must best support our Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) by beginning now the process of selecting a just and inclusive name for which all residents and visitors of our beautiful City can be proud.

1 <https://www.npr.org/2020/06/10/873421686/pressure-mounts-to-rename-army-bases-that-honor-confederate-officers>

2 <https://www.wral.com/fort-bragg-named-after-confederate-leader-slave-owner-discusses-name-change/19136984/>

3 <https://city.fortbragg.com/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1094>

Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg.

Signature	Printed Name	Town	Postal Code
[Signature]	John B. Wells	FB	94901
[Signature]	Beatrice Chappell	FB	94901
[Signature]	Jack [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Richard [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	David [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Ann [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Lee [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901

Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg.

Signature	Printed Name	Town	Postal Code
[Signature]	Rick [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Kathy Lockner	FB	94901
[Signature]	Kate [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Verona [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Armando [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Tom [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Ann [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Olga [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Ryleigh [unclear]	FB	94901

Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg.

Signature	Printed Name	Town	Postal Code
[Signature]	Scott [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Terrie [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Lib [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Eric [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Madeline [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Erica [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Karlie [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Paul [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Scott [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Laura [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901

Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg.

Signature	Printed Name	Town	Postal Code
[Signature]	Emily [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Michael [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Chris [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Karlie [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	Paul [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901

ANYONE CAN SIGN
Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg.

Signature	Printed Name	Town	Postal Code
[Signature]	Emily [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901

Petition to the Fort Bragg City Council to Immediately Form a Task Force to Select a Just and Inclusive New Name for Fort Bragg.

Signature	Printed Name	Town	Postal Code
[Signature]	Deborah [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901
[Signature]	John [unclear]	FB	94901

NOTE: By signing this petition you agree to be contacted by the Members of the Task Force in the future.

Lemos, June

From: DestinyandChance Ravynsong <LunariumApothecaria@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:00 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City Name Change

In Regards to the city name change it is my feeling that it is time to no longer celebrate the atrocities of history and those who inflicted them. This town stands in commemoration of a genocide, and a man who not only commanded this horrendous act, but who advocated and fought for the enslavement of African american and the Indigenous people, People who today make up a portion of our community, by no power other than perseverance of their own spirits. The name of this city was meant to honor a man of no honor, and to be frank it sickens me. We would best acknowledge the pasts horrors, and honor the path of reparations by not only changing the name, but by seeking the council of the first nations of this coast in choosing a new one. I appreciate this beauty full community, and I trust in it to do what is right! -Destiny R. Laird a life long local, mother of three children who look to us for guidance in what is right, and business owner.

Lemos, June

From: stephanie roberts <cacoastalcooking@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:39 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Comment for adding name change to ballot

Just put it on the ballot. Let people vote. Not bow to a handful of angry retired white people who don't understand the name change will be seen by the rest of the United States (that has us heard an awful lot about Fort Bragg this week) that we are With them, that we want change, for the better.

That we are not an exhausted tired old rotting coastal town thats last big legacy was crushing the lives of an entire tribe of Indians, and cutting down every single tree for a hundred miles to make a quick buck.

History won't change. No one's going to magically lose their memories, or their homes, or their sense of place, because the name changed.

But changing the name may go a long way to bringing tourism back to town. It will be excellent for the attention. This town is aging out, and has lost millions during SIP.

There's a lot of positive press to putting this on the ballot. All press is good press for a tourist driven town.

If the name does get changed, the money spent on business cards and form changes will easily be made up by the tourist dollars of new people who are coming up to see what it's all about.

Please add it to the ballot

Thank you,
--Stephanie Roberts

Lemos, June

From: collin olsonday <kahdooch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:20 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: City Resident - In support of name change.

I have lived in Fort Bragg and Mendocino for the last 19 years. All my life. I believe it is important for the town, for its citizens, and for the way our town is its perceived in other regions of the country that the name change be put on the ballot. When people look back on the name of our town in the future, after it becomes even more apparent that "Fort Bragg" is a problematic name, are we going to say we didn't even try to change it? It ought to be on the ballot. It ought to be put to the will of our citizens. Thank you.

- Collin Olson Day, Resident.

Lemos, June

From: Ted Seymour <ted@tedseymour.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fort Bragg name change

I am writing to state that I strongly support the changing of the name of the town of Fort Bragg to something more reflective and respectful to our Native American roots. There will doubtless be many who will oppose this measure, but the town of fort bragg should be courageous in doing what is right and honoring of the truth of the origins of our town.

Thank you very much,
ted seymour
707-357-3433
zip 95437

Lemos, June

From: Barbara Spillane <spillane.barb@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 4:56 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Change of City Name

Good Evening,

I, like many others have been both saddened and enraged about the police brutality and systemic racism that our country is and has experienced in our past. We are all responsible for the ongoing oppression and need many active changes to help alleviate the pain and suffering of all BIPOC. One positive thing that we, as a community can do is to honor our collective ancestors and cease naming cities after Confederate generals.

I propose an advisory council, made up of native/aboriginal people, who come together in unity, peace & equality to decide what the City of Fort Bragg should be re-named. This should not be a vote. This should be completely decided by the native/aboriginal population.

Thank you in advance for doing the right thing for our country and community and for reading and listening.

Best Regards,
Barbara Spillane

Lemos, June

From: rowboats <rowboats@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 4:33 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: listen to mendocoast bipoc

i support all the demands of mendocoast bipoc in regards to the name change. to keep this name is to fail this moment, the past and the future. if you really are concerned about the costs for businesses, imagine how much more costly it will be in the future, because it will change one way or another. the name change comes up every decade or so. stop putting it off for the future. now there is more political will, public awareness and even a group of rad people of color organizing to help move things forward. you must recognize this as a blessing, and compensate their work generously. for far too long marginalized groups do the majority of work to make things better for the masses and don't get fairly compensated.

lindy peters shame on you for rejecting the 2015 request to change the name, saying we don't have a problem with racism here. what that really means is You and most white people who live here don't have a problem with the racism that exists here. who has been allowed to settle here? to buy property? own a business? feel safe? what populations have been run out of town historically?

not only should the name be changed because it's named after bragg a racist slave holding confederate general but also because it is named after the fort associated with the mendocino indian reservation, a corrupt horrific prison camp where native people were enslaved starving and exploited. that is also why this name should change and land should be returned and descendants paid reparations.

please read the kelly house booklet on the mendocino indian reservation. it is really important to read. also look up chris calder's piece for the real estate magazine with harriet campbell stanley rhoades. there you will read some of the original places names of this area and take note that noyo was the name of a village at virgin creek.

also businesses and websites describing the history of this town needs to be less whitewashed and more honest. the signage on the coastal trail that briefly describes the mendocino indian reservation history does a good job. but most other blurbs about the town fail to acknowledge the horror and attempted genocide that is the "roots" of "fort bragg".

leu leung

Finding
Our
Resolve
To

Bring
Radical
Accountability for
Genocide and
Greed

--

Leu Leung

Nettles for Mona

email: rowboats@gmail.com

Pronouns: they/them/theirs ([why does this matter?](#))

Lemos, June

From: Lee, Will
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Miller, Tabatha; Munoz, Cristal; Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: City Name

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Hanebutt <mikehanebutt@gmail.com>
Date: June 22, 2020 at 3:55:35 PM PDT
To: Wlee@fortbragg.com
Subject: City Name

Hi Mayor Lee,

I was reading about the City of Fort Braggs recent media coverage about renaming the city, and if there's interest in keeping the 'Fort' with a general name, would turn your attention to these two examples. These suggestions also conveniently allow for keeping the FB initials for the city. Just a suggestion from a CA resident who has been visiting and enjoying your beautiful town for the entirety of my 36 years. Cheers.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasker_H._Bliss

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon_Bolivar_Buckner_Jr.

Lemos, June

From: Casey Davis <casey@thanksgivingcoffee.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: I support the name change of Fort Bragg, CA

Hi June,

I fully support the name change of Fort Bragg, CA. My main reason to support is that our current name excludes Black people and the Native American population here on the coast. That is unacceptable. We need to be inclusive to all people

Obviously financials are a big factor to consider, but human rights are more important.

Thank you,
Casey Davis

Sent from my iPad

Lemos, June

From: Scott Roat <scott@mendocinorealestate.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Name Change

I've been coming here for 30 years and living here for 20. As far as the name change goes, I find myself somewhat ambivalent – the name doesn't inspire me exactly, but I am empathetic to all those who spent many formative years here, and understand fully the nostalgic view.

However, I do think with a failing economy in our only remaining sector – tourism is our only tool in the hopper presently and it is now lying limp on the floor, courtesy COVID – that a name change might liven things up a bit, which would be beneficial. Long-run view, it would far offset the costs associated with the change.

I will be curious to see how this goes - I think we have an excellent opportunity -

Scott

~~~~~

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BRE License #01493269

## Lemos, June

---

**From:** Javier Silva <jsilva9806@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 3:53 PM  
**To:** Scott Menzies  
**Cc:** Lee, Will; Norvell, Bernie; Morsell-Haye, Jessica; Albin-Smith, Tess; Peters, Lindy; Lemos, June; Sierra Wooten  
**Subject:** Re: SUPPORT Task Force and Aboriginal Voices; OPPOSE ballot initiative

Thanks for the email Scott.

Hello All,

My family has had a continued presence in the city since its inception. The city has worked with my Tribe on development issues like the coastal trail, which was completed on a registered traditional cultural property . We would like to think that a gesture like a name change would help folks understand the true meaning of this place and who were the original owners and why they are no longer here. Unfortunately, this name change would not be for us but for the folks of Fort Bragg to feel a little less racist. We do not think this is true. Fort Bragg is still full of racism and bigotry upon which it was built on. We feel it daily.

We would support a name change only if and when the Tribe and its members receive our sacred places back and our rights to the land as original inhabitants. Until then, we do not feel like giving anymore of our culture so that we can continue to be treated as second to third class citizens. Those names are our names for our places. Settlers wanted to destroy those places and continue to do so to this day. Until we are able to say what happens on our land we cannot support giving the city our names in our languages. We have been exploited enough. We support the idea of participating in a task force and leading that discussion.

I along with some of my family will be coming to the city meeting to voice our concerns. Just remember, we are representing our ancestors who were not given any voice as a human being for over 200 years. Thank you for your time.

Javier Silva  
Sherwood Valley Tribal Member  
Noyo Descendent/Resident  
916-515-7078

On Sat, Jun 20, 2020 at 4:08 PM Scott Menzies <[scott.m.menzies@gmail.com](mailto:scott.m.menzies@gmail.com)> wrote:

Mayor and Members of the City Council.

Racial Justice must not be put to a vote. Putting such an issue to a vote ensures its failure along likely racial lines. The Black and Aboriginal folks for whom this name causes real suffering number a fraction of the population. Their allies in the white and Latino communities are likely insufficient to bridge that gap.

Sending this issue straight to the ballot is the absolute wrong thing to do.

It's inappropriate to put Civil Rights and Racial Justice issues up for a vote at any time. It's appropriate for our elected leadership to work to do the right thing and what they were elected to do - actually lead on such critical issues.

Putting it to a vote is also passing the buck and putting the burden, again, on the Black and Aboriginal folks, who have suffered, and continue to suffer, under the burden of ongoing community racism and systemic racism, on top of the legacy of slavery and Native genocide. Putting to a vote means they now have to spend even more unpaid advocacy time to fight a futile electoral battle on top of the burden they already carry.

**This is why I demand you direct staff to explore the immediate creation of a Name Change Task Force that will engage in an authentic discussion of Racial Justice in our region as well as how to proceed with a name change or re-dedication.** I demand such a Task Force be led by the Aboriginals of this area, for whom the "fort" in the City's name represents a direct line of colonialism from the fort used to subjugate and slaughter the Aboriginal population to now.

That Native leadership must start by providing them, as a Sovereign Nation, 15 minutes of time to open this Monday's Public Comment on the name change issue.

This name change issue cannot be considered an end-point. The real goal is authentically addressing Racial Justice locally. Just changing the name without such an authentic discussion is just scraping off a manifestation of the issue, while sweeping the issue itself under the rug.

Thank you for your time,  
Scott

Scott Menzies, M.A. (Environment & Community)  
Instructor/Proprietor  
Perfect Circle Taijiquan  
P.O. Box 1243 / 330 N. Franklin St, Fort Bragg, CA  
530-410-3333 (cell)  
707-962-3009 (studio - ringer always off)

## Lemos, June

---

**From:** Miller, Tabatha  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 11:18 AM  
**To:** Lemos, June  
**Subject:** FW: Possible city name change

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mark Murphy [mailto:fireclaims@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 11:16 AM  
**To:** Miller, Tabatha <TMiller@fortbragg.com>  
**Subject:** Possible city name change

Hi Ms Miller,

I've spent a lot of time in Fort Bragg over the years.

If the name is to be changed, I would like to suggest the name be Noyo.

It's already recognizable due to the harbor. Maybe Noyo Town, In any event, Noyo would make a lot of sense.

Sincerely

Mark Murphy

Sent from my iPhone

## Lemos, June

---

**From:** Mary Chamberlin <marysellsmendo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 3:22 PM  
**To:** Lemos, June  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter for City Hall Meeting

**Mary Chamberlin Realtor®**  
*Pamela Hudson Real Estate*  
[1000 Main Street](#)  
[PO Box 254](#)  
[Mendocino, CA 95460](#)  
**Call/Text: [\(707\)-367-5920](#)**  
**Office: [\(707\) 937-3900](#)**  
**CalBRE: [01956270](#)**  
**[www.marysellsmendo.com](http://www.marysellsmendo.com)**

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mary Chamberlin <marysellsmendo@gmail.com>  
**Date:** June 22, 2020 at 3:20:34 PM PDT  
**To:** jlemos@fortbragg.com  
**Subject: Letter for City Hall Meeting**

This is a moment in time where a name change would make a positive global impact on a level that could help this little town in more ways than we know. Yes it will cost money but finalizing the transition could be spread out over many years. We have a chance to create a progressive community that would draw innovation and stabilize our economy.

We desperately need a tech company or an environmentally friendly manufacturing company to put down roots here. We hopefully will have the option to invite these companies once the Southern part of the Mill Site is figured out. With so much media attention on Fort Bragg, we have a chance to show the world we are a community worth investing in. I don't want Fort Bragg to only be a place "where my kids grew up". I want them to prosper and and raise their families here too.

Thank you,

Mary Chamberlin

**Mary Chamberlin Realtor®**  
*Pamela Hudson Real Estate*  
[1000 Main Street](#)  
[PO Box 254](#)  
[Mendocino, CA 95460](#)  
**Call/Text: [\(707\)-367-5920](#)**  
**Office: [\(707\) 937-3900](#)**  
**CalBRE: [01956270](#)**



## Lemos, June

---

**From:** Jenny Harrison <profharrison@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 6:02 PM  
**To:** Lemos, June  
**Subject:** Name change

I strongly support changing the name of Ft Bragg because we should not honor such a despicable character in history by repeatedly using his name. It is also timely to do so because of heightened awareness within the U.S. population of racist Civil War symbols. Because of national attention, it would look as if our community was unaware of this history or did not care if Ft Bragg did not change its name at this time.

I like Noyo because it is simple and beautiful.

Other nice options are Noyo By the Sea and Pomo Bluffs. "Bay" should not be part of the name because there is not really a bay in this area.

Mail is delivered according to zip codes so the change might not be so difficult to implement. I would be willing to donate to companies who use "Ft Bragg" as part of their name, to help them make the transition.

Sincerely,

Jenny Harrison  
Little River, CA

Sent from my iPad



## Lemos, June

---

**From:** Evan Mills <evanmills1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020 12:17 PM  
**To:** Lemos, June  
**Subject:** Public comment on Fort Bragg, CA city name-change discussion

TO: Fort Bragg City Council  
FROM: Evan Mills, Mendocino, CA  
DATE: June 23, 2020  
RE: Proposed Fort Bragg name change

Our family very much appreciates the Fort Bragg City Council's addressing the city's naming question at the City Council meeting last night. Your professional and cordial handling of this thus far is a refreshing reminder that our democratic process can be an effective vehicle for change and that all voices can be heard.

I would like to offer a few comments and observations for your consideration. Note that while I and my four other family members do not live within the city limits of Fort Bragg, it is our primary hub for commerce: our family regularly patronizes businesses there, uses its doctors and hospital, and our out-of-town visitors routinely go there. The city's name thus has significant meaning for us.

- Changing a city's name does not erase or negate its history. Claiming so is a red herring. Those with deep history here would not lose their heritage or identity. What does change is the message sent to citizens and visitors about the values of the city. Indeed, changing the name *engages* current citizens in the City's history, which is a healthy and inclusive thing to do.
- I encourage the City Council to keep in focus that there are two distinct issues with the name: the question of contemporary racism against African Americans and others together with the question of historical atrocities against Native Americans and the discomfort felt by contemporary Native American citizens of the city. Simply addressing the race issue by attempting to distance ourselves from Braxton Bragg while keeping the existing name would not address the Native American issue.
- While surely not currently intended as such, the town's name is symbolic of the Confederacy and slave-holding, and those symbols are a main driver for white supremacists and Neo-Nazi causes. For better or worse, in the past few weeks this conversation has now reached many people and the genie cannot be put back in the bottle. The state and the country is now watching Fort Bragg, CA closely and their sentiments will ultimately affect our economy and reputation.
- I am concerned that lack of timely and meaningful action could be misconstrued as a dog whistle by out-of-area troublemakers that this area is tolerant if not welcoming of people inclined towards racism, and those individuals may now come here to capitalize on that, even if unwelcome. In the worst case, this could lead to conflagrations not unlike those we witnessed in Charlottesville, VA. While no one here wants that, the city could easily lose control if it is not proactive.
- Conversely, the name can have the effect of signaling people of color and Native Americans that their pain does not rise to the level of being "important" or "cost-effective" to address, and thus those individuals will not feel welcome here. The city's name may indeed be a reason that so few people from these groups live in Fort Bragg today and why others would be disinclined to visit or settle there.

- From the perspective of ordinary citizens and visitors alike, the town is currently silent on this issue, despite awareness of this history. There is no monument, except the name of the city itself. Consider that Manzanar, Spanish missions, and many other locations in California where racial and ethnic atrocities were perpetrated today bear prominent monuments recognizing and repudiating their history. While it would certainly not suffice in fully addressing this issue, a prominent monument should be erected near the site of the old Fort.
- Any economic assessment must be comprehensive, and not only the very real costs of changing the name (recognized at last night's meeting) but *also* opportunity costs of the status quo. We heard from one owner of a second home at last night's meeting who is now uncomfortable visiting Fort Bragg. We also heard from a new citizen who, because of the name, thought twice about moving here. We heard from several young people that the city's reticence is tone deaf to what is considered integrity in their generation. For towns to survive and remain vibrant, they need new people to come as others pass away or otherwise leave. Indeed, the positive news coverage and PR that the city could receive by changing its name may have the unexpected economic *benefit* of attracting more visitors, far more than could ever be achieved through paid publicity.
- While I am pleased that some progress was made last night, the steps agreed to were minimal. It is not clear why our city has to move so slowly while other cities and institutions such as the U.S. military base in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, have been more decisive and acted more quickly. Similarly, it is not clear why we seem to downplay (or almost defy) our Governor's admonition that the name should be changed.
- For many of the reasons listed above, the town's name affects those of us living nearby, but outside the technical city limits. I encourage you to include and reflect their views in your deliberations.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Evan Mills  
44501 Woodstock Drive  
Mendocino, CA 95460