

STAFF REPORT

**POTENTIAL RENAMING OF AMES MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
FOR JAMES HERMAN BANNING**

September 27, 2022

BACKGROUND:

On July 26, 2022, the City Council requested that staff provide a memo explaining the process for renaming the Ames Municipal Airport, including an estimate for all associated costs. In response to this request, the Staff contacted 1) the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regarding what is needed to rename the Airport and 2) local sign companies to obtain quotes on what it cost to change the lettering on the land and air sides of the Terminal Building as well as the monument sign at the Airport's entrance. The attached memo containing this information was provided at the August 9, 2022, City Council meeting.

The memo highlights that the FAA indicated 1) there is no cost from the FAA to rename the Airport; they simply need a City Council resolution to request the change, 2) an airspace analysis, which is likely take several months to complete, will be needed for the name change because it is the primary mechanism to alert Flight Procedures to update the instrument procedures, and 3) the new name is recommended to include the name of the City so individuals who may be unfamiliar with the name still know where the Airport is located (For example- "Jane Q. Public Ames Municipal Airport").

The emails from the FAA with their guidance and the City's naming policy, which was adopted on March 22, 2022, are attached to this Staff Report. In addition, the August 9, 2022 memo indicates that the monument sign at the entrance of the Airport has backlit acrylic panels that will need to be replaced (\$2,400 estimated total). The Terminal Building has lettering that is estimated at \$50 per letter; thus, the signage cost is proportional to the length of the name the City Council may choose. For example, "Ames Municipal Airport" is 20 characters, and at \$50/each, it would be \$1,000 per side of the Terminal (\$2,000 total). If City Council allocated \$5,000 for the Terminal signage, it would accommodate names of most length. **Therefore, the total estimated cost to rename the Airport would be \$7,400. Staff would also recommend planning for at least nine months for FAA review and to publish the new name.**

NAMING POLICY:

At the August 9, 2022, meeting the City Council requested that the Staff put on a future agenda a discussion of naming the Airport after James Herman Banning. As you will recall, the City Council recently approved a new naming policy for Non-Parks and Recreation Facilities, Major Features, and Amenities. Section 4 on this policy gives the following guidance for who qualifies for a naming.

Historic Events, People, and Places

The history of a major event, place, or person may play an important role in the naming or renaming of a place as communities often wish to preserve and honor the history of a city, its founders, other historical figures, its Native American heritage, local landmarks and prominent geographical locations, and natural and geological features through the naming of parks.

Outstanding Individuals

The City has benefited, through its evolution, from the contributions made by many outstanding individuals. This category is designed to acknowledge the sustained contribution that has been made by such individuals to the City.

Major Donations

Over the years, the City of Ames has benefited from the generosity of some of its residents, businesses, and foundations. On occasion, the significance of such donations may warrant consideration being given to requests from either the donor or another party to acknowledge such donations by naming.

JAMES HERMAN BANNING:

Former Ames resident James Herman Banning was an African American pilot and trailblazer in aviation. He was born in Oklahoma on Nov. 5, 1899. As a young boy, Mr. Banning's love of flying was sparked by the Wright Brother's historic flight at Kitty Hawk in 1903 and Wilbur Wright's flight in 1905, which covered an unprecedented 24 miles in 39 minutes and 23 seconds.

Mr. Banning's family moved to Ames in 1919, where he began studying electric engineering at Iowa State University. Within the next year, Banning took his first airplane ride, ended his studies, and decided to pursue aviation. He was denied entry into flight schools because of his race, yet learned to fly through private lessons at the Raymond Fisher Flying Field in Des Moines. From 1922 to 1928, Mr. Banning owned and operated an auto repair shop in Ames. He became the first African American in the United States to obtain a pilot's license from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

In 1929, Banning left Iowa to take a chief instructor job at the Bessie Coleman Aero Club aviation school for African Americans in Los Angeles, Calif. This school was named for the first African American licensed woman pilot. At this time, Banning purchased his own biplane and named it "Miss Ames." Banning and Thomas Cox Allen, of Oklahoma City, Okla., joined together in 1932 to become the first African Americans to fly coast to coast. They left Los Angeles on Sept. 18, 1932, and arrived at Long Island, New York, on Oct. 9, 1932. They made a 3,300-mile trip over 21 days with an actual flight time of 42 hours. Just a few months later, Banning was killed while riding as a passenger in plane that crashed at a San Diego, California air show on Feb. 5, 1933.

PUBLIC FEEDBACK:

At the meeting on August 9, 2022, the City Council directed staff to solicit public feedback regarding potentially naming the Airport after James Herman Banning. Therefore, after collecting information on Mr. Banning from various historical sources, a press release was sent out to the public on August 29, 2022. Several options were provided as to how the public could provide feedback to the staff on the potential renaming: 1) through a form on the City's website, 2) through the City's Social Media pages, and 3) via email. The deadline for feedback was Tuesday, September 15, 2022.

It should be noted that there was a wide range of feedback provided both in support of the proposed name and those against it. Also, though it was not part of the public solicitation, staff received some other suggested names for the Airport. **All the feedback received from all those sources has been provided through attachments to this report.**

OPTIONS:

Option 1 – Direct staff to prepare and return a resolution to City Council at a future date to rename the Airport as “James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport.”

Option 2 – Direct staff to prepare a resolution to rename the Airport after another historically important person and return the resolution to City Council at a future date.

Option 3 – Do not direct staff to proceed with renaming the Ames Municipal Airport at this time.

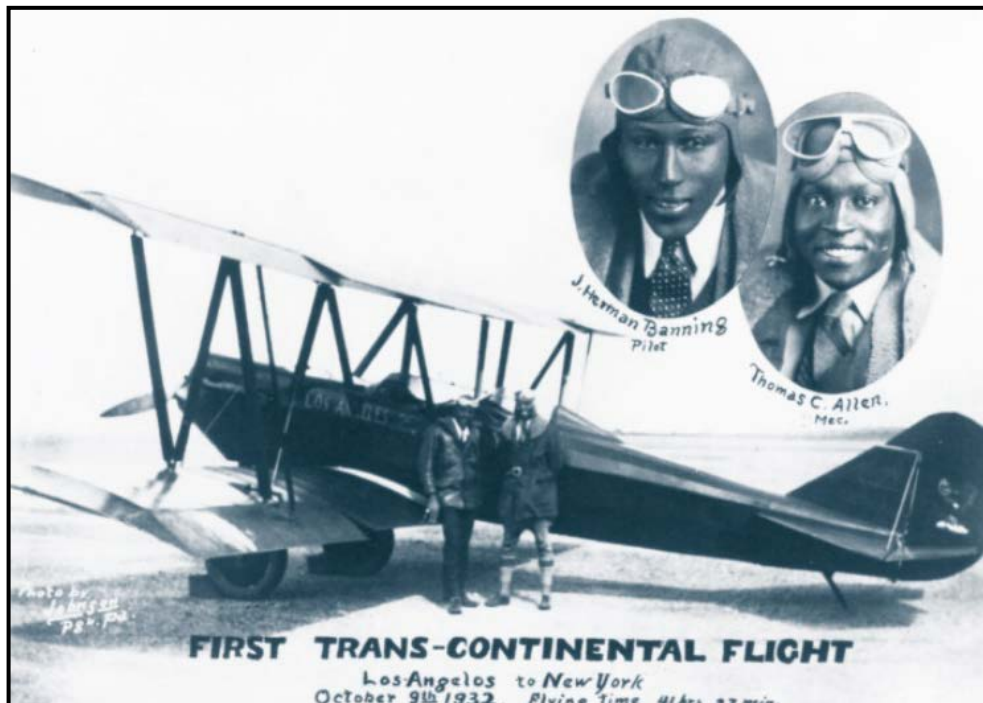
NEXT STEPS:

After reviewing the brief summary describing Mr. Banning's contributions and connection to Ames, the City Council could decide which of the three categories listed above would qualify the renaming. While there is a specific process prescribed in the naming policy for nominations requested by the public, Section 6c of the policy provides that the City Council may initiate a naming proposal.

If City Council wants to proceed with renaming the Ames Municipal Airport, **it is important to reiterate the FAA's guidance that the name of the city remains in the new official name.** Also, to initiate the name change, the FAA requires a resolution from the City Council stating that the Council has officially changed the name of the Airport. **Once the resolution is signed, the name of the Airport is immediately considered to be officially changed.**

Staff will then send the resolution to the FAA to begin the air space study and republishing process. It is expected to take anywhere from a minimum of 56 days up to

an undetermined amount of time per FAA guidance. The FAA indicated that while its process was ongoing, the City can immediately update the signage and show the new name on any local documents. Only those publications primarily used by pilots (managed by the FAA's system) will not show the correct name until the FAA has completed its updates.



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Damion Pregitzer, Traffic Engineer

Date: 8/9/2022

Subject: Process and Estimated Cost to Rename the Ames Municipal Airport

Staff has reached out to the FAA asking them about the procedure and cost to rename the Ames Municipal Airport. The FAA indicated that 1) there is no cost from the FAA, they simply need a City Council resolution requesting the change, 2) an airspace study will be required to assure that no obstructions are being created with the signage change which will likely take several months to complete, and 3) the new name should include the name of the City so that people who may be unfamiliar with the name still know where the airport is located (For example- "*John/Jane Q. Public Ames Municipal Airport*"). The emails from the FAA with their guidance and the City's naming policy have been attached to this memo.

Also, staff solicited estimates from local sign companies to modify the name on the front and back of the Terminal Building and at the monument sign at the Airport's entrance. The monument sign at the entrance has backlit acrylic panels that will need to be replaced; estimated to be \$2,400. The Terminal Building has lettering that is estimated at \$50 per letter, thus the signage cost is proportional to the size of a name the City Council may choose. For example, "Ames Municipal Airport" is 20 characters and at \$50/ea. would be \$1,000 for each side of the Terminal (\$2,000 total). If City Council allocated \$5,000 for the Terminal signage, it would accommodate most any length of name. **Therefore, the total estimated cost to rename the airport would be \$7,400. Staff would also recommend planning for at least nine (9) months for FAA review and to publish the new name.**

RE: Steps to rename Ames Airport

Karrasch, John (FAA) <John.Karrasch@faa.gov>

Tue 2/8/2022 9:07 AM

To: Pregitzer, Damion <Damion.Pregitzer@cityofames.org>

Cc: Joiner, John <john.joiner@cityofames.org>; Deitering, Jeff (FAA) <jeff.deitering@faa.gov>

[External Email]

Hi Damion,

In addition to Jeff's comments,

Issue #2

We will need to conduct an airspace analysis on the name change because the airspace process is the primary mechanism to alert Flight Procedures so they can update the instrument procedures. In addition to the typical 2-3 months to complete the airspace analysis, additional months will be needed for Flight Procedures to update the procedures and get them published.

Regards,

John D. Karrasch

On Airport Airspace Specialist-Central Region (IA,KS,MO,NE)

Airports Div. ACE-620F

901 Locust St. Rm 364

Kansas City, MO 64106

816.329.2617

<https://oeaaa.faa.gov>

[Airport Data and Information Portal \(faa.gov\)](https://oeaaa.faa.gov)

In administering 14 CFR, Part 77 and Part 157, the FAA's prime objectives are:

To promote air safety and the efficient use of navigable airspace.

From: Deitering, Jeff (FAA) <jeff.deitering@faa.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2022 8:23 AM

To: Pregitzer, Damion <Damion.Pregitzer@cityofames.org>

Cc: Joiner, John <john.joiner@cityofames.org>; Karrasch, John (FAA) <John.Karrasch@faa.gov>

Subject: RE: Steps to rename Ames Airport

Damion,

To change how your airport name appears in our directories you need to send us a request for the change including a copy of either a resolution or the minutes of a governing body meeting showing the airport owner wants and approves of the change. Email those to John Karrasch (john.karrasch@faa.gov). If you choose to move forward with a name change please be very clear with precisely (including punctuation) to what you want it changed.

We (FAA) will not pay for new signage due to name change on or off the airport.

Things that MAY impact FAA related interests. These are mostly time impacts; I don't believe there is a charge for them:

Issue #1

NOTAM issued until publications are updated (Airport)

Approach plates updated to new name (FAA)

Chart Supplement (A/FD) updated to new name (FAA)

Coordinate with ATO about facilities associated with Airport to see if modifications are needed (ASOS recording, NAVAID names, ATCT procedures, etc.) (FAA)

Update automated pay/billing systems with invoicing and ATO Logistics if needed (Airport)

Modify Airport/FAA leases as/if necessary (Airport)

Issue #3

Additionally, but not necessarily in our purview, our recommendation to all airports is to maintain the locality in the name so inbound and connecting visitors/traffic have a sense of where they are. In fact, Topeka changed their name from Forbes Field to Topeka Regional so they could get more name recognition.

Please keep in mind it generally takes several months for all our directories to update to a new name.

Thank you,

Jeffrey D. Deitering, P.E. *

Airport Planning Engineer - Iowa

FAA Central Region Airports Division, ACE-630

901 Locust Street, Room 364

Kansas City, MO 64106

Ph: 816.329.2637

email: jeff.deitering@faa.gov

Web: <http://www.faa.gov/airports/central/>

*Licensed in Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: NAMING POLICY FOR CITY PLACES, FACILITIES, AND STRUCTURES

BACKGROUND:

At the February 8, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed staff to place on a future Council agenda a proposed naming policy for municipal properties, similar to the existing Parks & Recreation Policy. Using the Parks and Recreation Naming Policy as a guide, staff has drafted a policy that would be applicable to City facilities that are not related to Parks and Recreation features.

The proposed policy divides properties that may be named into three categories: facilities, major features, and amenities. Naming proposals may be considered for historic events, people, or places, outstanding individuals, or major donations. Criteria are included to review the proposed naming and record the reasons for the proposal. Although naming proposals can be submitted by the public, the City Council and City Manager may also submit naming proposals to the City Council for consideration.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the attached "City of Ames Naming Policy"
2. Modify the attached policy
3. Do not approve a naming policy

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The attached policy provides guidance to accept and consider proposals for the naming of City property. The provisions included largely reflect the similar policy in place for Parks and Recreation features. Adopting this policy will provide for a standardized, thorough, and accessible path for naming proposals to be considered and approved.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.

CITY OF AMES NAMING POLICY

(For non-Parks and Recreation Facilities, Major Features, and Amenities)

1. INTRODUCTION

The naming or renaming of city facilities, major features, or amenities is a complex and sometimes emotionally evocative since assigning a name is a powerful and permanent identity for public property. The naming and renaming of facilities, major features, or amenities often requires significant resources in terms of changing names on signs, maps, and literature. In addition, excessive and constant name changing can be the source of confusion to the public. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to those that have an interest in the naming and or renaming of the City's facilities, major features, or amenities.

2. OTHER APPLICABLE POLICIES

In some circumstances, naming of a facility, major feature, or amenity is subject to another policy the City has adopted. These include:

a. **Parks and Recreational Facilities:**

The naming of parks and recreational facilities, major features, and amenities is subject to the separate *Parks and Recreation Naming Policy*. These include all traditionally designed parks, gardens, natural open spaces, woodlands, and specialized parks, and all major structures such as community centers, swimming pools, and enclosed pavilions located on lands under the stewardship of the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department.

b. **Streets:**

The naming of streets is subject to specific criteria separate from this policy, which are outlined in the City's *Administrative Program for Street Naming and Addressing*. However, a roadway feature such as a bridge or tunnel is subject to the *City of Ames Naming Policy*.

3. DEFINITIONS

a. **Naming:**

The permanent name assigned by City Council to a given facility, major feature, or amenity.

b. **Facilities:**

Buildings or structures such as fire stations, utility plants, bridges, City office buildings, community centers, swimming pools, plaza, electric substations, and enclosed pavilions.

- c. **Major Features:**
Permanent areas or objects, such as rooms within facilities or roadway features.
- d. **Amenities:**
Smaller features, such as equipment or furnishings (e.g., training apparatus, boardroom tables, benches, etc.). Recognition for donated amenities is possible.
- e. **Donations:**
A donation of property, goods or cash generally with no expectation of return. If the gift is contingent upon a special request, it is made subject to “condition.”

4. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of Ames to reserve the naming or renaming of facilities, major features, and/or amenities for circumstances that will best serve the interests of the City and ensure a worthy and enduring legacy for the City.

To this end, the City of Ames supports consideration of naming requests within the following broad categories.

- a. **Historic Events, People, and Places**
The history of a major event, place, or person may play an important role in the naming or renaming of a place as communities often wish to preserve and honor the history of a city, its founders, other historical figures, its Native American heritage, local landmarks and prominent geographical locations, and natural and geological features through the naming of parks.
- b. **Outstanding Individuals**
The City has benefited, through its evolution, from the contributions made by many outstanding individuals. This category is designed to acknowledge the sustained contribution that has been made by such individuals to the City.
- c. **Major Donations**
Over the years, the City of Ames has benefited from the generosity of some of its residents, businesses, and foundations. On occasion, the significance of such donations may warrant consideration being given to requests from either the donor or another party to acknowledge such donations by naming.

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

a. **Naming/renaming for Historic Events, People, and Places**

When considering naming a facility, major feature, or amenity after events, people and places of historic, cultural or social significance, requests must demonstrate this significance through research and documentation and show there is continued importance to the city, region, state, and/or nation.

b. **Naming/renaming for Outstanding Individuals**

A facility, major feature, or amenity may be named for an outstanding individual who has made a significant contribution to the City of Ames, the State of Iowa, or the nation. In addition to societal contributions, the moral character of the individual must be considered. When considering requests, it is preferred that the individual has a connection to the facility, major feature, or amenity being requested to be named.

c. **Naming/Renaming for Major Donations**

From time to time, a significant donation may be made to the City that will add considerable value to the City's resources and/or services. On such occasions, recognition of this donation by naming/renaming a facility, major feature, or amenity in honor of or at the request of the donor will be considered.

The City Council may use its discretion as to what dollar amount is worthy of naming rights for individual projects, on a case-by-case basis.

Donors seeking naming rights for major donations with respect to an individual should follow the principles outlined in 4.b. (Outstanding Individuals). Exceptions to this will be considered on their own merits.

Naming facilities with a company name is not permitted; however, company names will be considered for Major Features and Amenities. Corporate logos, insignias, brands, or direct advertising text shall not be permitted

d. **Renaming a facility, major feature, or amenity**

Proposals to rename facilities, major features, or amenities, regardless of the rationale for the original naming, are not encouraged. Likewise, names that have become widely accepted by the community will not be abandoned unless there are compelling reasons and strong public sentiment from the broader community for doing so. Historical or commonly used place names will be preserved wherever possible.

e. **Other Considerations**

When naming/renaming a facility, major feature, or amenity, does the proposed name engender a strong positive image, have historical, cultural or social significance for future generations, and have broad public support?

To minimize confusion, individual facilities or features will not be subdivided for the purpose of naming unless there are readily identifiable physical divisions. Major features should be named differently from the facilities in which they exist to avoid user confusion.

All signs that indicate the name of a facility, major feature, or amenity shall comply with City of Ames graphic and design standards. Specialized naming signage will not be permitted.

The City of Ames reserves the right to rename any facility, major feature, or amenity if the person or entity for whom it is named turns out to be disreputable or subsequently acts in a disreputable way.

6. PROCEDURES

These procedures have been established to ensure that the naming or renaming of facilities, major features, and/or amenities is approached in a consistent manner.

a. Requests from the public to name/rename facilities, major features, and/or amenities

All requests for the naming or renaming of a facility, major feature, or amenity shall be made by submitting a Naming Application to the City Manager.

The Naming Application will contain the following minimum information:

1. The proposed name
2. Reasons for the proposed name
3. Written documentation indicating a certification of character and community support for the proposed name (e.g. letters of support, petitions, etc.)
4. If proposing to name a specific area within a facility or major feature, include a description/map showing the location within the larger area.
5. If proposing to rename a facility, major feature, or amenity, include justification for changing an established name.

6. If proposing to name a facility, major feature, or amenity for an outstanding individual, include documentation of that individual's significant contribution to the City, State and/or Nation

b. Assessing and approving naming/renaming requests

Upon receipt of a naming request, the City Manager shall:

1. Review the proposed request for its adherence to the City of Ames Naming Policy.
2. Ensure that supporting information has been authenticated, particularly when an individual's name is proposed
3. Seek input from relevant neighborhood association(s), historical groups, and other organizations, if deemed appropriate

The City Manager will then present a recommendation regarding the naming request at a public meeting to the City Council.

c. Independently of a request from the public, the City Manager or the City Council itself may submit naming proposals for City Council consideration.

d. Final decision by City Council

The decision by the City Council to approve or deny a name change shall be considered final.

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: NAMING POLICY FOR CITY PLACES, FACILITIES, AND STRUCTURES

BACKGROUND:

At the February 8, 2022 City Council meeting, the City Council directed staff to place on a future Council agenda a proposed naming policy for municipal properties, similar to the existing Parks & Recreation Policy. Using the Parks and Recreation Naming Policy as a guide, staff has drafted a policy that would be applicable to City facilities that are not related to Parks and Recreation features.

The proposed policy divides properties that may be named into three categories: facilities, major features, and amenities. Naming proposals may be considered for historic events, people, or places, outstanding individuals, or major donations. Criteria are included to review the proposed naming and record the reasons for the proposal. Although naming proposals can be submitted by the public, the City Council and City Manager may also submit naming proposals to the City Council for consideration.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the attached "City of Ames Naming Policy"
2. Modify the attached policy
3. Do not approve a naming policy

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The attached policy provides guidance to accept and consider proposals for the naming of City property. The provisions included largely reflect the similar policy in place for Parks and Recreation features. Adopting this policy will provide for a standardized, thorough, and accessible path for naming proposals to be considered and approved.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.

CITY OF AMES NAMING POLICY

(For non-Parks and Recreation Facilities, Major Features, and Amenities)

1. INTRODUCTION

The naming or renaming of city facilities, major features, or amenities is a complex and sometimes emotionally evocative since assigning a name is a powerful and permanent identity for public property. The naming and renaming of facilities, major features, or amenities often requires significant resources in terms of changing names on signs, maps, and literature. In addition, excessive and constant name changing can be the source of confusion to the public. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to those that have an interest in the naming and or renaming of the City's facilities, major features, or amenities.

2. OTHER APPLICABLE POLICIES

In some circumstances, naming of a facility, major feature, or amenity is subject to another policy the City has adopted. These include:

a. **Parks and Recreational Facilities:**

The naming of parks and recreational facilities, major features, and amenities is subject to the separate *Parks and Recreation Naming Policy*. These include all traditionally designed parks, gardens, natural open spaces, woodlands, and specialized parks, and all major structures such as community centers, swimming pools, and enclosed pavilions located on lands under the stewardship of the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department.

b. **Streets:**

The naming of streets is subject to specific criteria separate from this policy, which are outlined in the City's *Administrative Program for Street Naming and Addressing*. However, a roadway feature such as a bridge or tunnel is subject to the *City of Ames Naming Policy*.

3. DEFINITIONS

a. **Naming:**

The permanent name assigned by City Council to a given facility, major feature, or amenity.

b. **Facilities:**

Buildings or structures such as fire stations, utility plants, bridges, City office buildings, community centers, swimming pools, plaza, electric substations, and enclosed pavilions.

- c. **Major Features:**
Permanent areas or objects, such as rooms within facilities or roadway features.
- d. **Amenities:**
Smaller features, such as equipment or furnishings (e.g., training apparatus, boardroom tables, benches, etc.). Recognition for donated amenities is possible.
- e. **Donations:**
A donation of property, goods or cash generally with no expectation of return. If the gift is contingent upon a special request, it is made subject to “condition.”

4. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of Ames to reserve the naming or renaming of facilities, major features, and/or amenities for circumstances that will best serve the interests of the City and ensure a worthy and enduring legacy for the City.

To this end, the City of Ames supports consideration of naming requests within the following broad categories.

- a. **Historic Events, People, and Places**
The history of a major event, place, or person may play an important role in the naming or renaming of a place as communities often wish to preserve and honor the history of a city, its founders, other historical figures, its Native American heritage, local landmarks and prominent geographical locations, and natural and geological features through the naming of parks.
- b. **Outstanding Individuals**
The City has benefited, through its evolution, from the contributions made by many outstanding individuals. This category is designed to acknowledge the sustained contribution that has been made by such individuals to the City.
- c. **Major Donations**
Over the years, the City of Ames has benefited from the generosity of some of its residents, businesses, and foundations. On occasion, the significance of such donations may warrant consideration being given to requests from either the donor or another party to acknowledge such donations by naming.

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

a. **Naming/renaming for Historic Events, People, and Places**

When considering naming a facility, major feature, or amenity after events, people and places of historic, cultural or social significance, requests must demonstrate this significance through research and documentation and show there is continued importance to the city, region, state, and/or nation.

b. **Naming/renaming for Outstanding Individuals**

A facility, major feature, or amenity may be named for an outstanding individual who has made a significant contribution to the City of Ames, the State of Iowa, or the nation. In addition to societal contributions, the moral character of the individual must be considered. When considering requests, it is preferred that the individual has a connection to the facility, major feature, or amenity being requested to be named.

c. **Naming/Renaming for Major Donations**

From time to time, a significant donation may be made to the City that will add considerable value to the City's resources and/or services. On such occasions, recognition of this donation by naming/renaming a facility, major feature, or amenity in honor of or at the request of the donor will be considered.

The City Council may use its discretion as to what dollar amount is worthy of naming rights for individual projects, on a case-by-case basis.

Donors seeking naming rights for major donations with respect to an individual should follow the principles outlined in 4.b. (Outstanding Individuals). Exceptions to this will be considered on their own merits.

Naming facilities with a company name is not permitted; however, company names will be considered for Major Features and Amenities. Corporate logos, insignias, brands, or direct advertising text shall not be permitted

d. **Renaming a facility, major feature, or amenity**

Proposals to rename facilities, major features, or amenities, regardless of the rationale for the original naming, are not encouraged. Likewise, names that have become widely accepted by the community will not be abandoned unless there are compelling reasons and strong public sentiment from the broader community for doing so. Historical or commonly used place names will be preserved wherever possible.

e. **Other Considerations**

When naming/renaming a facility, major feature, or amenity, does the proposed name engender a strong positive image, have historical, cultural or social significance for future generations, and have broad public support?

To minimize confusion, individual facilities or features will not be subdivided for the purpose of naming unless there are readily identifiable physical divisions. Major features should be named differently from the facilities in which they exist to avoid user confusion.

All signs that indicate the name of a facility, major feature, or amenity shall comply with City of Ames graphic and design standards. Specialized naming signage will not be permitted.

The City of Ames reserves the right to rename any facility, major feature, or amenity if the person or entity for whom it is named turns out to be disreputable or subsequently acts in a disreputable way.

6. PROCEDURES

These procedures have been established to ensure that the naming or renaming of facilities, major features, and/or amenities is approached in a consistent manner.

a. Requests from the public to name/rename facilities, major features, and/or amenities

All requests for the naming or renaming of a facility, major feature, or amenity shall be made by submitting a Naming Application to the City Manager.

The Naming Application will contain the following minimum information:

1. The proposed name
2. Reasons for the proposed name
3. Written documentation indicating a certification of character and community support for the proposed name (e.g. letters of support, petitions, etc.)
4. If proposing to name a specific area within a facility or major feature, include a description/map showing the location within the larger area.
5. If proposing to rename a facility, major feature, or amenity, include justification for changing an established name.

6. If proposing to name a facility, major feature, or amenity for an outstanding individual, include documentation of that individual's significant contribution to the City, State and/or Nation

b. Assessing and approving naming/renaming requests

Upon receipt of a naming request, the City Manager shall:

1. Review the proposed request for its adherence to the City of Ames Naming Policy.
2. Ensure that supporting information has been authenticated, particularly when an individual's name is proposed
3. Seek input from relevant neighborhood association(s), historical groups, and other organizations, if deemed appropriate

The City Manager will then present a recommendation regarding the naming request at a public meeting to the City Council.

c. Independently of a request from the public, the City Manager or the City Council itself may submit naming proposals for City Council consideration.

d. Final decision by City Council

The decision by the City Council to approve or deny a name change shall be considered final.



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Susan Gwiasda, Public Relations Officer, susan.gwiasda@cityofames.org, 515.239.5204
Damion Pregitzer, Traffic Engineer, Damion.pregitzer@cityofames.org, 515.239.5277

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2022

City Council Seeks Input on Airport Naming

AMES, Iowa – The Ames City Council is seeking input on naming the Ames Municipal Airport the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport. Feedback is requested by Thursday, Sept. 15, to be included in discussion planned for the City Council meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Former Ames resident James Herman Banning was an African American pilot and trailblazer in aviation. He was born in Oklahoma on Nov. 5, 1899. As a young boy, Banning’s love of flying was sparked by the Wright Brother’s historic flight at Kitty Hawk in 1903 and Wilbur Wright’s flight in 1905 which covered an unprecedented 24 miles in 39 minutes and 23 seconds. Banning’s family moved to Ames in 1919, and Banning began studying engineering at Iowa State University.



James Herman Banning

Within the next year, Banning took his first airplane ride, ended his studies, and decided to pursue aviation. He was denied entry into flight schools because of his race yet learned to fly through private lessons at the Raymond Fisher Flying Field in Des Moines. From 1922 to 1928 Banning owned and operated an auto repair shop in Ames. He became the first African American in the United States to obtain a pilot’s license from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

-more-

In 1929, Banning left Iowa to take a chief instructor job at the Bessie Coleman Aero Club aviation school for African Americans in Los Angeles, Calif. This school was named for the first African American licensed woman pilot. At this time, Banning purchased his own biplane and named it “Miss Ames.”

Banning and Thomas Cox Allen, of Oklahoma City, Okla., joined together in 1932 to become the first African Americans to fly coast to coast. They left Los Angeles on Sept. 18, 1932, and arrived at Long Island, New York, on Oct. 9, 1932. They made a 3,300-mile trip over 21 days with an actual flight time of 42 hours. Just a few months later, Banning was killed while riding as a passenger in plane that crashed at a San Diego, Calif., air show on Feb. 5, 1933. He was 34 years old.

Residents can leave comments about naming the Ames Municipal Airport the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport on the City’s website at www.CityOfAmes.org/AirportName or by emailing Public Works Management Analyst McKinlee Ritter at mckinlee.ritter@cityofames.org

Additionally, comments will be collected from the City’s social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter). The Ames City Council is not seeking other naming options.

###

###

Ames Municipal Renaming Discussion

9/19/2022

Email Responses

Lori Biederman: I am thrilled that we have the opportunity to name the airport after a pioneering aviator. I was unaware of this story, but it is awesome that Ames had such an important role in Aviation history (8/29/2022)

Nikki Kyle: Can we shorten it to just Banning Memorial Airport or something? The suggested name is pretty long. I've actually talked with Gloria about it already; I was in favor of Snook-Banning or Banning-Snook for Neta Snook. (8/29/2022)

Tim Shuck: I am opposed to renaming the Ames Municipal Airport after Mr. Banning. I had hoped that by 2022 we would be past making decisions based on the color of a person's skin, but apparently not. From Dr. Betcher: "I think that it is about time that Ames recognize some of our more impressive residents of color in a substantial way". Dr. Betcher is surely aware of Jack Trice Stadium, Carver Hall, and the Simon Estes Music Hall, and perhaps others that I've overlooked.

Banning and Allen's achievement is noteworthy, without question, but apparently Mr. Banning was not born in Ames, did not learn to fly in Ames, did not die in Ames, and although he briefly lived in Ames and attended ISU, had no substantive connection to the Ames airport. If the airport were to be renamed after a person, I think the half-century contributions of the Westbrook family to that facility would be a more compelling choice.

But, I am opposed to renaming the airport at all. As a label, Ames Municipal Airport identifies where the airport is, which I think would be important to pilots from outside the area for whom location information is critical. Unlike, for example, knowing where the Arnold O. Chantland resource recovery plant is for people not otherwise connected to Ames.

This City Council seems to making decisions based on emotion: we have to have an indoor municipal pool because all the cities around us do, even if it means building it on a toxic waste site in spite of reasonable objections; we need to name a municipal facility after a person of color, even if the person to be so honored had no significant connection to that facility or the people of Ames in general.

If it is to be done, certainly there are other ways to commemorate the achievements of Mr. Banning, Nita Snook Southern, and yes, the Westbrook family, at the Ames Municipal Airport.

(8/29/2022)

Darryl Bennett: The idea of naming the Ames airport is inspired and definitely of merit; I would like to propose another worthy name to be added for consideration. **The James Herman Banning & Frederick Douglass Patterson Ames Municipal Airport**

If you look into Banning's past, or take a walk on Main Street, you will find that while living in Ames, Banning roomed with another prominent, historical figure with an amazing aviation connection/story of his own! - Frederick Douglass Patterson.

[Frederick D. Patterson \(1901-1988\) • \(blackpast.org\)](https://blackpast.org)

While at Tuskegee -

- founded the School of Veterinary Medicine at Tuskegee in 1944,
- that same year he also founded the *United Negro College Fund (UNCF)*
- ***His foresight into emerging fields at Tuskegee also prompted him to spearhead the engineering program, which from its inception enabled African Americans to gain high level technical jobs across the country. He became so engaged in the commercial aviation program he initiated that he learned to fly.***
- ***His contributions to aviation did not end there. In the late 1930s, Dr. Patterson defied all of the political, social and financial odds against training African American youth to fly military airplanes. Not only did he win for Tuskegee a coveted federal contract to establish a training site, but he persuaded the government to establish a full air base at Tuskegee. That accomplishment gave birth to the now legendary Tuskegee Airmen of the World War II U.S. Army Corps. Nearly 1,000 African Americans completed their first training at Tuskegee Army Air Field. Half went overseas during World War II as combat pilots, and despite segregation's obstacles, the Tuskegee Airmen boasted a spotless record—not one bomber was lost to enemy planes in 1,500 missions. This feat contributed significantly to the eventual desegregation of the American armed forces.***

8/29/2022

Will Harder: I think it's good idea (8/29/2022)

Elizabeth Cox: While I respect the man, no one will call it that. Seriously, let's keep life simple. Mr. Banning could care less. (9/8/2022)

Sharon Wirth: I support naming the Ames airport after James Herman Banning and the terminal after Neta Snook Southern. Both are worthy of the recognition. Both are minority persons in aviation; I can't think of anyone more fitting. It's time to give them the recognition they deserve.

Citizens should stop by the Ames History Museum's "Black Trailblazers" exhibit to learn more about Banning and 8 other outstanding Black residents (ending on 9/28). Additionally in 2018, a plaque was placed at 226 Main to mark the building where Banning lived while a student at ISU.

Please give this suggestion serious consideration! (9/10/2022)

Kennedy Fawcett: Haps Municipal Airport he gave so much. (9/12/2022)

Tim Rasmussen: I wholeheartedly agree with the idea of renaming the Ames Airport after James Herman Banning. One article I read quotes a councilperson as saying this is a way to recongize "some of our more impressive residents of color in a substantial way." I'd go a step further and say we're recongnizing one of our more impressive residents in a substantial way. To think of the determination and drive it must have taken to become a pilot in those early days of flight, against very difficult odds, is very inspiring. (9/13/2022)

Nancene Wengert: As you will see in the attached letter, I am proposing the following name, Neta Snook Southern, for the Ames Airport. Thank you for your attention in this matter. (9/13/2022)

September 12, 2022

City of Ames
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

Attn: Honorable Mayor John Haila and Ames City Council

I am writing to suggest and in support of naming the Ames Airport for Neta Snook Southern.

Neta Snook Chapter #882 of Questers, Ames, Iowa was recognized and chartered in 1977 by Questers International. At this time, I am the only charter member of the chapter. We met on September 8 and at that meeting members discussed how we might go about proposing Neta's name for the Ames Airport. By copy of this letter, we would like to suggest and support the name Neta Snook Southern.

In 1920 Neta bought and rebuilt an old Canuck in her parent's backyard on Wilson Avenue. She then took passengers for flights over Ames from the field west of Squaw Creek near the present location of Hilton Coliseum. Later that same year she flew the plane to California and began a career with a flying service. While there, she met Amelia Earhart and became Amelia's flying instructor. Besides teaching, Neta had charge of the wing department of Davis-Douglas Aviation Company. Neta was also the first woman on the Pacific Coast to attempt an altitude record, attaining a height of 15,000 feet. Marriage and family soon followed – combining careers. In 1974 Neta Snook Southern wrote her book entitled, *I Taught Amelia to Fly.*

We feel she is worthy and we are honored to forward her name.

Thank you and sincerely,

Nancene Wengert
700 S. Dakota Avenue #108, Ames, IA 50014

Cc: Neta Snook Chapter #882, Ames, IA

FACEBOOK

FACEBOOK on James Herman Banning on Aug. 29 – 6 LIKES/LOVES

Anne Packard

Were there other names under consideration and this has become the final selection from the choices? I would've liked to have seen all the possibilities. Like the Neta Snook story - she lived in Ames, attended Iowa State College and later had Amelia Earhart as a student. <https://www.facebook.com/ameshistory/posts/pfbid0n2L5tUSG1Vx5dtp9XGw25axPxAwjTWVe2dv9bvj8LM6dC9pr7Z4vUF6k79qNNotKI>

Rich Gillen

City of Ames - City Government In other words you Leftwing Democrats have already made up your minds! Wasted Time & Money on this Woke Bull Shit with so many other important things that need done in this Town.

Rich Gillen

Anne Packard Far leftwing Democrats pushing Black culture is all. Most of these spots have had a name for over a hundred years. Like changing the Squaw River to some stupid name like loway! So many things that need done in this town an they waste Time & Money on this Bull Shit.

Keegan Haines

Rich Gillen "Pushing black culture." The man was a proud member of the community and represented the city with a fantastic achievement against all odds at the time, then died tragically. The city has already celebrated his life in other capacity, he's been recognized at the historical society before this, hell the small model Miss Iowa was up the last time I was in there. If we never named places after our heroes it would be a boring world. "Park #1, Park #2, Park #3" instead of Emma Lee McCarthy, Anne Munn or Ada Hayden. It only pisses you off because he's black. Certainly there could be other good candidates, maybe there would've been value in putting it up to a vote, but civil engagement is extremely low in this town so they're only going to hear a few angry voices no matter whom they choose to name it after. Nothing about celebrating an extremely hard working Ames trailblazer is "black culture." I literally don't even know what you mean by that, except possibly that you don't like seeing anything celebrating a black individual because you conclude it must be woke, and ignore the possibility that individual may have earned legitimate praise.

Rich Gillen

Keegan Haines Why do you even care you probably don't Fly like the other 99% of Ames residents? Ames in 2022 is about 68,500 with only about 40 planes kept at the Ames Airport. 1% would be 685 Trained Pilots. Ames was platted as a city and was established in 1864, 158 Years ago. "James Herman Banning (November 5, 1900 – February 5, 1933) was an American aviation pioneer. In 1932, James Banning, accompanied by Thomas C. Allen, became America's first black aviator to fly coast-to-coast" and "Only four months after his historic flight, Banning was killed in a plane crash during an air show at Camp Kearny military base in San Diego on February 5, 1933. He was a passenger in a two-seater Travelaire biplane flown by

Navy machinist mate second class Albert Burghardt, who was at the controls because Banning had been refused use of the airplane by an instructor at the Airtech Flying School. After taking off and climbing 400 hundred feet, the plane stalled and entered an unrecoverable tailspin in front of hundreds of horrified spectators. Banning was recovered from the wreckage and died one hour later at a local hospital." So he wasn't even a War Hero or even a good pilot! The Point is that they only considered (1) Person which in 158 Years of Ames History there has been many Heros. Blacks in this Country make up 13% of the population, Asians make up 8%, Hispanics make up 18%, and Whites 61%, everybody else falls into the 1%. The FACT that only a black Man was singled out, shows their Wokeness! What's next, CRT for Ames Schools? Let's tear down some Statues! They already show their Wokeness by changing the River's Name. The CN&W Railroad bridge was built over Sqaw Creek in 1898 129 Years ago and it was called Sqaw Creek for many more years before that and before Ames was even a Town! Call it what it is, Woke Democrats trying to change History. Wasting Tax Payer's Money!

Keegan Haines

Rich Gillen Why would somebody need to be a war hero to be recognized for great achievement? We already have memorials and displays dedicated to war heroes. I don't know how you arrived at the assessment that he "wasn't even a good pilot," I think that's shortsighted of you. His skill isn't really the point of his story, it's more the fact that he overcame oppression to chase his dreams, being one of the first in the country of his skin color to do so, and clearly had a love and dedication to the city. This represents our history of diversity and celebrates his unique achievement and mourns a life taken too early out of racist arrogance.

Your listing of Ames's demographics seems irrelevant to this conversation, but if you insist on playing the sick game of naming things after people only proportionally to how many people of their race reside here—presently well over 61% of city facilities are named after white people, therefore they are misrepresented in "having things named after them." This, is an abhorrent argument in the first place and I'm only pointing out how silly it is for you to list statistics in this context. You have no idea if they only considered (1) person, in fact, in this thread the city has encouraged people to send information on other possibilities if they are passionate that person should be considered. It's sad to know you wouldn't be throwing this fit if they had chosen a white person, and it wouldn't be a "waste of taxpayer money."

Rich Gillen

Keegan Haines It's called FACTS Honey! Not everybody that Served in the Military was a WAR HERO either!

A Good Pilot wouldn't Stall his Plane at 400ft!

Who was the first African American person to fly a plane?

Bessie Coleman.

Born January 26, 1892 Atlanta, Texas, U.S. Died April 30, 1926. She also wasn't a Good Pilot or Mechanic which also led to her early death. But she had a more distinguished Flying career than this guy!

Christopher Columbus was an Italian, is accredited with finding the New World in 1492, Yet an Englishman and his other 40 Party members were here 40 years before him. The Vikings were here 600 years before him, and the Mayans were here before the Vikings. A Chinese General and his Sailors of 40 Ships were here before them all.

More FACTS! The Indians Named most of these Rivers & Streams long before any Europeans migrated here. In American Indian Languages, Sqaw means Woman!

FACTS Again, they stated he is the only one being considered right now because he is Black, which is also Racist!

You don't know me. They make up only 13% of the US Population, but here in Ames. "The 5 largest ethnic groups in Ames, IA are White (Non-Hispanic) (78.1%), Asian (Non-Hispanic) (11.4%), Two+ (Non-Hispanic) (3.36%), Black or African American (Non-Hispanic) (3.01%), and White (Hispanic) (2.34%)."

I'm sure in the last 150 years plus Ames has had a lot of Real Heros. It's you Woke Left Wing Democrats that are trying to change History.

It is a Waste of Tax Payer's Money to devote their TIME & Money to something that has worked for over 100 Years. It's a Waste of Tax Payer's Money to put up stupid Lights on Hwy 30. They Wasted Tax Payer's money already on the Flooding issue from the Airport. When you got more important issues in Ames, like Homelessness, Drug Addicts walking the Streets, Crime is up, Spring Flooding issues, Streets needing Repair Work, Cyride Busing problems, Bike Path problems, Water Shortages, Electric problems, etc! Their shortsightedness of putting a Solar Field on some High Dollar Commerical Property, when the City already owned other property that could have been used.

Eric Weber

Too obvious to pick a war hero, former POW, involved with the Ames Airport for decades
? <https://hapsair.com/>

FACEBOOK POST – 24 LIKES/LOVES (Sept. 10, 2022)

Joe Thien Let's just have it as "James Herman Banning Airport"

I don't know much about aviation, but adding Ames Municipal is too long. No one flies here. We're not Des Moines. Keep it short and simple if possible.

Josh Sills Joe Thien I think at this point their minds are made up already...kind of a "look what we did." Thing. The last thread about this didn't really do anything constructive.lol

Joe Thien Josh Sills solid. Love the fake input from the city residents!

Josh Sills Joe Thien right?

Joe Thien Josh Sills for fun I googled James Banning. He was the first one to come up, so why need his middle name?

Josh Sills Joe Thien good question 🤔

Alex Fejfar Joe Thien he went by Herman his Middle name

Hagen Carter Maybe Ames Banning Municipal Airport?

FACEBOOK POST – 1 LIKE (Sept. 12, 2022)

FACEBOOK POST – 3 LIKES/ 1 SHARE (Sept. 14, 2022)

TWITTER

9/14 – 5 likes

9/12 – 1 like

9/10 – 5 likes

IanAmes @cityofames

This news genuinely cheered me up this morning, ensuring that all stories are told, especially those where people like James have fought oppression to continue to follow their passion. Small changes such as this improve our understanding of the world and lead to wider change...

@IanAmes Sep 11

... in my home town of Plymouth we have had a similar campaign to acknowledge @JackLeslieCamp

the first black player to have been selected to play soccer for England. He was deselected for his colour and it was another 53 years before Viv Anderson became the first black player.

Drew Schlosser @cityofames

Great idea!

@bubbabingo@cityofames

Do it!

INSTAGRAM

No comments.

Sept. 14 – 8 likes

Sept. 12 – 11 likes

Sept. 10 – 29 likes

Sept. 2 – 18 likes

| VoterID | Submit Date | The Ames City Council will be discussing the possible renaming of the Ames Municipal Airport to the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport at regularly scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, meeting. Please provide any feedback regarding the use of James Herman Banning for the Ames Municipal Airport name. |
|---------|-----------------|---|
| 32880 | 8/29/2022 9:02 | I think it's a great idea! |
| 32881 | 8/29/2022 9:45 | I think this sounds like a great idea! Love the "Miss Ames" name. :-) |
| 32882 | 8/29/2022 10:06 | I think this is an AMAZING idea - I am excited to know more about Ames History and his name absolutely belongs on our airport |
| 32884 | 8/29/2022 10:27 | This is a wonderful idea. The fact that our local and national society was not receptive to black aviators underscores his achievement, and the naming of his airplane demonstrates the place Ames still played in his development as an aviator. |
| 32885 | 8/29/2022 10:31 | Checking the system |
| 32889 | 8/29/2022 11:37 | When renaming airports, keep in mind the potential for loss of identity. Without the use of the city name first, the city often loses the easily identification. Some smaller airports have kept the city name first, then add the name of the person you are honoring. Airports are often listed alphabetically, such as in an airport directory. Some mall airports, such as Newton, has kept neon first in the name and then ename the field for the person you are honoring. Even large airports that have renamed airports for famous people are difficul to figure out where they are for most people |
| 32890 | 8/29/2022 12:26 | I am opposed to renaming the Ames Municipal Airport after Mr. Banning. I had hoped that by 2022 we would be past making decisions based on the color of a person's skin, but apparently not. From Dr. Betcher: "I think that it is about time that Ames recognize some of our more impressive residents of color in a substantial way". Dr. Betcher is surely aware of Jack Trice Stadium, Carver Hall, and the Simon Estes Music Hall, and perhaps others that I've overlooked. Banning and Allen's achievement is noteworthy, without question, but apparently Mr. Banning was not born in Ames, did not learn to fly in Ames, did not die in Ames, and although he briefly lived in Ames and attended ISU, had no substantive connection to the Ames airport. If the airport were to be renamed after a person, I think the half-century contributions of the Westbrook family to that facility would be a more compelling choice. But, I am opposed to renaming the airport at all. As a label, Ames Municipal Airport identifies where the airport is, which I think would be important to pilots from outside the area for whom location information is critical. Unlike, for example, knowing where the Arnold O. Chantland resource recovery plant is for people not otherwise connected to Ames. This City Council seems to making decisions based on emotion: we have to have an indoor municipal pool because all the cities around us do, even if it means building it on a toxic waste site in spite of common-sense objections; we need to name municipal buildings after a under-represented demographic (according to some), even if the person to be so honored had no significant connection to that facility or the people of Ames in general. If it is to be done, certainly there are other ways to commemorate the achievements of Mr. Banning, Nita Snook Southern, and yes, the Westbrook family, at the Ames Municipal Airport. |
| 32891 | 8/29/2022 12:32 | I think this is a great name. I didn't know about this cool history, it makes me proud to be from Ames. |
| 32892 | 8/29/2022 12:40 | I think this is a great idea and would further show potential residents of the city as well as students of the university that Iowa State and Ames are places with diverse history that embrace that diversity and don't try to bury it. As an alum of the university this name change would bring me great pride. |
| 32893 | 8/29/2022 12:59 | I fully support naming the airport after James Banning. |
| 32894 | 8/29/2022 13:08 | I think it is a great idea, Ames has done a wonderful job of recognizing African Americans in history such as Jack Trice and George Washing Carver and this would add to that list. |
| 32896 | 8/29/2022 13:41 | Neta Snook Southern, Flight Instructor for Amelia Earhart Mary Anita "Neta" Snook Southern was born February 14, 1896, in Mount Carroll, Illinois, and became interested in machinery as a child. Her father would allow her to sit on his lap and help steer the family's Stanley Steamer car and later taught her more details about how the car worked. She moved to Ames, Iowa, as a teenager with her parents and attended Iowa State College. Reading about balloons and airplanes in the college library inspired her to take flying lessons, which led to an Aero Club pilot's license. She is believed to be the first certificated woman pilot in Iowa, according to the Ames History Museum. After World War I she brought a wrecked Canadian Canuck biplane, a version of the Curtiss JN-4 Jenny, back to her parents' home and gradually rebuilt it in her spare time while attending college classes. By the spring of 1920, it was ready to fly. Southern recounts the process of getting it airborne in her autobiography, I Taught Amelia to Fly. "I removed the wings, loaded them on a truck, hooked the fuselage behind, and took the plane to a pasture which adjoined the Iowa State College campus. After assembling it, I made my first solo flight. That summer I carried passengers and barnstormed through the middle states. I charged \$15 for a passenger flight, and tried to give each one fifteen minutes in the air. If there were many waiting, I could cut the time in half without complaints. All were happy to return to the ground safely and be able to say they had been up in an aeroplane." When she moved to California in 1920, Neta became the first woman to run a commercial airfield, Kinner Field in Los Angeles, which included business for passenger carrying, aerial advertising, and flight instruction. Her most famous student was Amelia Earhart, whom she instructed in 1921. Later that year, she married William Southern, sold her airplane, and never flew again. She died at 95 in 1991. |
| 32900 | 8/29/2022 14:54 | I think it's a fine idea! I think it's admirable how in spite of being declined admittance to flight schools, he still learned how to fly. I also find it neat he named his first plane "Miss Ames". |

| VoterID | Submit Date | The Ames City Council will be discussing the possible renaming of the Ames Municipal Airport to the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport at regularly scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, meeting. Please provide any feedback regarding the use of James Herman Banning for the Ames Municipal Airport name. |
|---------|-----------------|---|
| 32904 | 8/29/2022 16:56 | Sounds like a good idea to name the airport after the first African American who obtained a pilots license. |
| 32905 | 8/29/2022 17:05 | Great idea ! Do it ! |
| 32906 | 8/29/2022 17:06 | This is a fantastic idea. It should be a solid no brainer. |
| 32907 | 8/29/2022 17:21 | I wholeheartedly support this idea. I recommended it specifically to my councilperson (Gloria Betcher). It would be a great way to highlight a great Ames resident and to show our city's commitment to recognizing the achievements of people of color. |
| 32908 | 8/29/2022 17:45 | Great idea |
| 32910 | 8/29/2022 18:22 | I support the renaming of the airport to something honoring the person listed above. I think either James Herman Banning Airport or just Banning Municipal would be fine. I think the reasoning behind the change is a good choice as well. - Huxley resident |
| 32911 | 8/29/2022 18:23 | I support the renaming of the airport to something honoring the person listed above. I think either James Herman Banning Airport or just Banning Municipal would be fine. I think the reasoning behind the change is a good choice as well. - Huxley resident |
| 32913 | 8/29/2022 19:10 | Yes I think it's good idea |
| 32916 | 8/29/2022 20:32 | I am completely in favor of the new name, great choice! |
| 32917 | 8/29/2022 20:40 | I think renaming the airport after him is an excellent choice. |
| 32918 | 8/29/2022 20:45 | This is a fantastic idea and a great way to share the story of early aeronautics and both Banning and Coleman. I strongly support this name for the Ames Municipal Airport. Great choice! |
| 32919 | 8/29/2022 21:13 | Hello. I'm an alumnus of Iowa State University from the College of Engineering. I wish to offer my perspective. James Banning was a citizen of Ames, an Iowa State student, and a man who's passion embodies what it means to be a Cyclone. His successes in finding, cultivating, and navigating his passion is a testament to what it means to choose one's adventure. We are a community that seeks to celebrate its heroes, those who have fought for further themselves and others during times when segregation and prejudice held many back. We honor Jack Trice's legacy at ISU through his name being immortalized on ISU's campus. I think celebrating the legacy of James Banning through the municipal airport would be a great way to celebrate a member of the Ames community |
| 32926 | 8/30/2022 9:06 | I would love to get this renamed in his honor. I am an Air Force veteran from Ames and I see this as a fitting tribute to Mr. Banning and a great way to celebrate an aviation first with an Ames connection. |
| 32927 | 8/30/2022 9:16 | Haven't we did enough for African-Americans!!! |
| 32928 | 8/30/2022 10:43 | I think this is a terrific idea |
| 32932 | 8/30/2022 11:34 | Please name the airport in his honor. |
| 32933 | 8/30/2022 11:39 | I think this is a great idea. It is most appropriate to recognize outstanding ISU alums, and this man's achievement is historic, given all the roadblocks he must have faced then. |
| 32935 | 8/30/2022 12:03 | I have nothing against changing the name to include Banning, but when you say at the Ames Airport, everyone knows your talking about the airport in Ames. If I said see you at the Banning Airport, most people would be confused. |
| 32936 | 8/30/2022 12:14 | My name is Steve Benson. I lived in Ames for five years in the 1970's while earning my civil engineering degree at Iowa State. I also worked for the City in the Traffic Division of Public Works through ISU's Engineering Co-op program. My first experience with the Ames airport was replacing some signs. After graduation, I moved to the Kansas City area to begin my career in airport consulting. In 1983, I had the privilege to be the project manager for the master plan and environmental assessment that changed AMW's capabilities significantly. That plan led to the development of the current 5,701 foot runway. Ames Municipal Airport remains a source of pride to me. In fact, I was CEO of the same consulting firm when it prepared the most recent master plan for AMW. Now in retirement, I was happy to read that the City is considering honoring two important figures in its aviation history. No matter how you choose to honor these aviators, I would suggest that you keep the City's name in the airports identification as well. I did a check of the airports serving the other nine Big 12 cities, each of them maintain the airport owner's name in the airport title. Big 12 airports that honor other persons include: LUBBOCK PRESTON SMITH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA WESTHEIMER AIRPORT; FT. WORTH MEACHAM AIRPORT; FT. WORTH SPINKS AIRPORT; AUSTIN-BERGSTROM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; and MORGANTOWN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AT WILLIAM L. BILL HART FIELD. However you should choose to rename the airport, maintaining the City's identity is valuable for marketing both the City and the airport. In fact, in reviewing the names of the 13 publicly-owned airports in the 10 Big 12 cities, only Morgantown and Ames still retain "Municipal" in their names. The others not mentioned previously include LAWRENCE REGIONAL AIRPORT; MANHATTAN REGIONAL AIRPORT; STILLWATER REGIONAL AIRPORT; LUBBOCK EXECUTIVE AIRPORT; AUSTIN EXECUTIVE AIRPORT, and WACO REGIONAL AIRPORT. AMW's role as an Enhanced Airport in the Iowa State Airport System Plan, and as a Regional Airport in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) indicate it goes beyond serving just the needs of the Ames community, but offers a greater regional capability. I look forward to hearing how you rename the airport, field, and/or terminal to honor and commemorate Ames' aviation pioneers. Sincerely, Steve Benson, PE, ISU '76; Bolivar, MO |

| VoterID | Submit Date | The Ames City Council will be discussing the possible renaming of the Ames Municipal Airport to the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport at regularly scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, meeting. Please provide any feedback regarding the use of James Herman Banning for the Ames Municipal Airport name. |
|---------|-----------------|--|
| 32937 | 8/30/2022 13:07 | I have been flying out of Ames for 37 years and never heard of James Banning. I would name it after a flight instructor at Iowa state or someone involved with the airport. |
| 32943 | 8/30/2022 17:33 | Thumbs up from me and my wife Deb. Roger Bean 303 E 16th St |
| 32944 | 8/30/2022 18:59 | I vote no to the name change |
| 32947 | 8/30/2022 20:23 | The current name is excellent. Lets everyone know where the airport is. Leave the name alone. |
| 32951 | 8/31/2022 8:13 | I agree with the potential rename. James is a notable figure in aviation history and has significant ties to Ames. This promotes our history, diversity, and brings notice to the accomplishments of Ames residents. |
| 32952 | 8/31/2022 10:26 | I love this! I am absolutely in support of renaming the airport. |
| 32961 | 8/31/2022 20:11 | Love this choice! Well deserved. |
| 32990 | 9/2/2022 15:54 | I am in support of the airport being renamed to honor the contributions of James Herman Banning! |
| 33077 | 9/10/2022 19:01 | I think that's a great idea!! I support renaming the airport after him 100%!!! |
| 33080 | 9/10/2022 20:53 | Yes, what a great idea! I would love to honor Ames local Banning by naming the airport after him. |
| 33081 | 9/10/2022 20:56 | I think the Ames City Council should move to use Banning's name for the airport! Firstly, the city must continue to amplify black stories and black lives as something to be honored and celebrated. We must make space for them and be sure their names are remembered. We have a duty to do this in light of current events. Secondly, this naming will show that while many communities seek to erase black history, we stand in contrast to this effort and welcome the recognition of black achievement by honoring Banning's legacy in flight. I would be proud of Ames to adopt this naming. May we never forget our trailblazers and local heroes. |
| 33082 | 9/10/2022 21:10 | Just name it James Herman Banning Municipal Airport |
| 33084 | 9/10/2022 21:56 | In this divisive world...having a focus on this man in namesake of the airport is awesome! We as Ames citizens should be proud to name the airport after James Herman Banning. Thank you leaders for proposing this EXCELLENT choice! |
| 33086 | 9/11/2022 9:06 | Having two rhyming words in the name sounds strange (James and Ames). Drop one or the other. |
| 33093 | 9/12/2022 5:59 | Absolutely love the idea! Wish we could pay reparations to his family, but it's a good place to start. |
| 33094 | 9/12/2022 7:31 | I think this is fantastic - we have a beautiful airfield and we should celebrate. Sharing James Banning's story helps us honor the past, including his struggles becoming a pilot but his determination to make it happen here in Iowa. Let's celebrate the past and move our airport forward with this new name. Proud to support this change! |
| 33095 | 9/12/2022 8:58 | I think Naming the airport in honor of Banning would be terrific! |
| 33097 | 9/12/2022 10:24 | I think this is a great idea |
| 33098 | 9/12/2022 10:43 | Please do rename. My father-in-law, an Air Force Veteran and MA resident, knew about this long before I did and has sketched Banning in his airplane before. I.e., this is a historic event Ames should be proud of. |
| 33099 | 9/12/2022 11:00 | I love this idea. Hoping it is accepted as the new name. |
| 33108 | 9/12/2022 18:01 | NO to any Ames Municipal Airport name change. |
| 33110 | 9/12/2022 20:02 | Why not name it squaw creek airfield? |
| 33112 | 9/12/2022 21:52 | In agreement that the airport should be renamed in honor of James Herman Banning |
| 33113 | 9/13/2022 7:50 | There is nothing in this biography that explains why the airport should be named after this man. He wasn't born in Ames and didn't spend a significant portion of his life in Ames. I fail to see how this individual deserves to have the airport named after him. I am not opposed to renaming, but find someone with a deeper connection to Ames. |
| 33116 | 9/13/2022 12:15 | I'm wondering if the city could share the criteria they've used in the past to name a building. While I support the idea of naming the airport for an African American pilot, I wonder if this matches the city policy. It seems most of Banning's accomplishments were not actually connected to Ames. It seems he was only in Ames for school, and then he left. Are we naming buildings after anyone who studied at Iowa State? Or should we name buildings after folks who made substantial contributions to the Ames community? |

| VoterID | Submit Date | The Ames City Council will be discussing the possible renaming of the Ames Municipal Airport to the James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport at regularly scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, meeting. Please provide any feedback regarding the use of James Herman Banning for the Ames Municipal Airport name. |
|---------|-----------------|--|
| 33119 | 9/13/2022 14:20 | The idea of naming the Ames airport is inspired and definitely of merit; I would like to propose another worthy name to be added for consideration. Thank you! Darryl Bennett 27300 Graham Street Ames, IA 50010 Suggested name of the airport would be: The James Herman Banning & Frederick Douglass Patterson Ames Municipal Airport If you look into Banning's past, or take a walk on Main Street, you will find that while living in Ames, Banning roomed with another prominent, historical figure with an amazing aviation connection/story of his own! - Frederick Douglass Patterson. Frederick D. Patterson (1901-1988) • (blackpast.org) While at Tuskegee - founded the School of Veterinary Medicine at Tuskegee in 1944, that same year he also founded the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) His foresight into emerging fields at Tuskegee also prompted him to spearhead the engineering program, which from its inception enabled African Americans to gain high level technical jobs across the country. He became so engaged in the commercial aviation program he initiated that he learned to fly. His contributions to aviation did not end there. In the late 1930s, Dr. Patterson defied all of the political, social and financial odds against training African American youth to fly military airplanes. Not only did he win for Tuskegee a coveted federal contract to establish a training site, but he persuaded the government to establish a full air base at Tuskegee. That accomplishment gave birth to the now legendary Tuskegee Airmen of the World War II U.S. Army Corps. Nearly 1,000 African Americans completed their first training at Tuskegee Army Air Field. Half went overseas during World War II as combat pilots, and despite segregation's obstacles, the Tuskegee Airmen boasted a spotless record—not one bomber was lost to enemy planes in 1,500 missions. This feat contributed significantly to the eventual desegregation of the American armed forces. |
| 33121 | 9/13/2022 14:54 | I think this is a fantastic idea and I am really glad that the city of ames is recognizing Black history as part of our history. |
| 33141 | 9/14/2022 20:03 | He had an insufficient connection to Ames to deserve an airport to be named after him. |
| 33142 | 9/14/2022 20:49 | I think this is a great idea! |
| 33158 | 9/15/2022 15:58 | There are 12 public airports in Iowa that have officially named airports in honor of an individual. To preserve searchability of the airport in databases used by pilots communities, to honor those individuals, and using the full name of this honoree as proposed, the most common nomenclature is to list the city name first like: Ames Municipal Airport- James Herman Banning Field. |
| 33178 | 9/15/2022 19:50 | I am against any renaming of the airport or any other location. We have seen revisionist history occur in just the past few years, in time people will reflect on this guy and find some flaw that we didn't object to today but generations from now...they'll take issue with something he did, said, or represents. So let's stop naming anything and retain the simple and well established Ames Airport...no objections or concerns about that. |
| 33179 | 9/15/2022 19:59 | I'd rather no name change, just put up a nice portrait in the terminal with a short description of who he was and what he did. Far more people will learn about him in that way than seek out info about him from an airport renaming. Besides if you do this you could also include information about Neta Snook. https://ameshistory.org/content/neta-snook |