

ITEM #: 26
DATE: 02-10-26
DEPT: ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: RENAMING CENTER AVENUE TO CHANTLAND AVENUE

BACKGROUND:

On November 18, 2025, the City Council received a memo from staff requesting that Center Avenue be renamed "Chantland Avenue." The City Council directed that staff prepare an ordinance accomplishing the name change.

The rationale for the name change is to honor Arnold O. Chantland, who passed away in January 2026 at age 98. In 1975, the City opened the Resource Recovery Plant, located at 110 Center Avenue. Since that time, the facility has processed millions of tons of municipal solid waste, removing recyclable materials and producing an alternative boiler fuel for the Power Plant. The Resource Recovery Plant was the initiative of former Public Works Director Arnold O. Chantland. In recognition of his efforts, on July 9, 1991, the City Council renamed the facility the "Arnold O. Chantland Resource Recovery Plant."

Changes outside the City's control over the past 50 years have prompted the City to pursue a new facility to manage the community's solid waste and recycling needs – the Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus (R3C). This new facility undoubtedly benefits from innovations and lessons learned from five decades of operations at the Arnold O. Chantland Resource Recovery Plant.

The new R3C will be located approximately a mile from the existing facility, which will close once the R3C becomes operational. **Staff believes that it would be fitting to recognize the contributions of Arnold O. Chantland in an enduring fashion by renaming Center Avenue to Chantland Avenue.**

This street is one block in length and contains three properties addressed on it (one of which is the Resource Recovery Plant). Additionally, renaming this street will reduce potential confusion with Center Drive (at the Iowa State Center), which is a goal of the City's adopted Street Naming Guide. The ordinance formalizing the name change is attached for the Council's review.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve first reading of an ordinance renaming Center Avenue to Chantland Avenue.
2. Do not approve the name change.
3. Refer this item to staff for further information.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Arnold Chantland directed numerous improvements to the Ames community during his time as Public Works Director, including the development of the Resource Recovery

Plant. As that facility prepares to close, staff believes it would be fitting to rename Center Avenue in Mr. Chantland's honor. Additionally, the name change provides the benefit of reducing potential confusion with the similarly named Center Drive at the Iowa State Center. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Ordinance Renaming Center to Chantland Ave.PDF](#)