Hi Alice.

I'm emailing in response to two articles in the November issue of our local newsletter the Community Reporter.

In one article, 'Creating Vibrant Public Spaces', it was heartening to learn that Penalosa's 8-80 Cities initiatives are a key part of City Planning in St. Paul and also that the Willow Reserve, 'restored and revitalized', project is moving forward despite some fears and negativity at the North End community meetings this past year

The other article 'Our Park at the River' was also good news. It's been exciting to watch the regrading and pathway extensions materialize as the park takes shape. However, the apparent necessary renaming and/or name choice puzzles me. Quarry Farm sounds like brand of pickled beets. I know the park area has been many things over the years from, a farm, a ferry landing, a quarry, an oil storage facility and brownfield site. It seems arbitrary and somewhat forced to rename the park just for the sake of not calling it Victoria Park.

The Park may well be 'Our' park, in the locale sense, however, it is a city park and will become a major one at that when it is complete.

Victoria sounds just fine and a street that runs all across our city.

I'm sure her majesty wouldn't mind, if indeed she was consulted or referenced, and if a name change is warranted, it would seem to be more than at a local subcommittee's discretion. Regardless, the 8-80 Cities, Willow Reserve and Park with No Name are all good things Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Cheers,

Tom