

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: March 26, 2025

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso
Chief Legislative Analyst



Assignment No: 25-02-0152

SUBJECT: Terminal 21 Roberto Clemente

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Rodriguez – Blumenfield) to include in the City’s 2025-2026 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for any legislation or administrative action that would name a terminal at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in Puerto Rico to “Terminal 21 Roberto Clemente.”

SUMMARY

The attached Resolution (Rodriguez – Blumenfield) recognizes Roberto Clemente’s significant contributions as a Major League Baseball superstar and his extensive humanitarian efforts in Pittsburgh, Puerto Rico, and throughout Latin America.

The Resolution notes that Roberto Clemente died off the coast of Puerto Rico in 1972 in a plane crash for a flight he chartered to deliver humanitarian aid to earthquake victims in Nicaragua. The Resolution notes that naming an airport terminal in his honor would spread international awareness of his legacy.

The Resolution recommends that the City support any legislation or administrative action that would name a terminal at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in Puerto Rico “Terminal 21 Roberto Clemente.”

BACKGROUND

Roberto Clemente was one of the first Latino superstars in Major League Baseball, and still stands as an all-time great outfielder. His baseball accolades include: 15 All-Star appearances; 12 consecutive Gold Glove Awards; four National League batting titles; 3,000 career hits; a National League Most Valuable Player Award and a World Series Most Valuable Player Award. While he had already played 18 seasons, he was still performing at an astounding level when his career was tragically cut short.

He is memorialized by Major League Baseball, which awards the Roberto Clemente Award each year to the player who “best exemplifies the game of baseball, sportsmanship, community involvement and the individual’s contribution to his team.”

Throughout his illustrious career, he used his platform for charity work and humanitarian efforts. He frequently hosted free baseball clinics for underprivileged youth in Pittsburgh and Puerto Rico.

He personally fundraised and gathered essential supplies for victims of the 1972 Nicaragua earthquake. He died on the fourth flight he chartered to deliver these supplies after learning that the first three had been diverted by corrupt officials.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tristan Noack", written over a horizontal line.

Tristan Noack
Analyst

SMT:tcjn
Attachment: Resolution

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles, with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente, born in Puerto Rico in 1934, is an inner circle Baseball Hall of Famer, distinguished by his incredible contributions as a baseball player and humanitarian; and

WHEREAS, his achievements as one of Major League Baseball's first Latino superstars include 15 All-Star appearances, 12 consecutive Gold Glove Awards, 3,000 career hits, four batting titles, and National League and World Series Most Valuable Player awards; and

WHEREAS, he was also renowned for his charitable work, especially with children, in the Caribbean, Latin America, and Pittsburgh; and

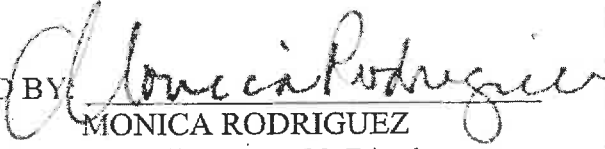
WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente died tragically in 1972 off the coast of Puerto Rico, in a plane crash for a flight he chartered to deliver humanitarian aid to earthquake victims in Nicaragua; and

WHEREAS, he was also involved in the American civil rights movement, and was visited in Puerto Rico by Martin Luther King Jr.; and

WHEREAS, naming a terminal in his honor at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in Puerto Rico would help spread international awareness of his legacy as a humanitarian and philanthropist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for any legislation or administrative action that would name a terminal at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU), in Puerto Rico, to "Terminal 21 Roberto Clemente."

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



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