

Proposed park naming - “Upper Junction Park”

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| Date: | December 15, 2009 |
| To: | Etobicoke York Community Council |
| From: | Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation |
| Wards: | Ward 11- York South-Weston |
| Reference Number: | |

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report responds to the request made at Etobicoke York Community Council (Item EY29.37), regarding the naming of the park situated at 85 Birdstone Crescent.

The Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Division is recommending that the park located at 85 Birdstone Crescent be officially named “Upper Junction Park” in recognition of the important role the Upper Junction played in the City’s history.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities and Parks Policy have been met.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that Etobicoke York Community Council:

1. name the park situated at 85 Birdstone Crescent “Upper Junction Park”.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

Etobicoke York Community Council, at its meeting of September 15, 2009, in considering the matter, “Assumption of Birdstone Crescent and Local Park Tiffany Park (St. Clair) Ltd. – 1912 St. Clair Avenue West,” among other things, directed the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report on renaming Weston/Gunns Park in accordance with the City of Toronto’s Naming and Renaming Policy for Parks..

(Item EY29.37)

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ey/decisions/2009-09-15-ey29-dd.htm>

COMMENTS

A formal request has been submitted to name the park located at 85 Birdstone Crescent “Upper Junction Park.” It is noted that Weston/Gunns is not currently a formal park name in the vicinity.

The Junction was founded in 1884. In 1889, it merged with nearby villages to become the town of West Toronto Junction. It grew further into the Town of Toronto Junction in 1892, and then the City of West Toronto in 1908 before it was annexed by the City of Toronto in 1909.

The Junction has had a rich and varied history. Originally, Native Canadian trading trails met at this location. Later, railway tracks were laid to follow these trails which encouraged the growth of industry. The Junction became a manufacturing community that boomed during the late 1800’s with foundries, mills, wire factories, meat-packing plants and various other industries. Soon after, hotels and taverns sprung up to serve the influx of workers. The Junction was prone to booms and busts throughout its varied history.

The Junction has always retained a “small town feel” and richness of history. Naming the park situated at 85 Birdstone Crescent “Upper Junction Park” is an opportunity to recognize an important component of the City’s history, and formalize a name that is already commonly used by the community.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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