STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Naming of Public Lane Located West of Dufferin Street
Between Winston Park Boulevard and Whitley Avenue

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>January 19, 2011</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>North York Community Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>From:</td>
<td>City Surveyor</td>
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<td>Wards:</td>
<td>Ward 9</td>
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<td>Reference Number:</td>
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SUMMARY

This report responds to the request from the North York Community Council for a report on the naming of a public lane as "Najib Abboud Lane". Mr. Abboud has lived in Ward 9 for 50 years and recently celebrated his 105th birthday.

Councillor Augimeri supports the naming of this lane after Mr. Abboud in recognition of his service to the community and advanced years.

Community Councils have delegated authority to decide street naming matters in accordance with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy. The Policy states that names of living persons should be used only in exceptional circumstances. However, the Policy does not provide any guidance as to what constitutes exceptional circumstances, and therefore Community Councils are unable to exercise their delegation, and the matter should therefore be considered by Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Surveyor recommends that the North York Community Council:

1. determine whether it wishes to recommend the naming of the public lane located west of Dufferin Street, between Winston Park Boulevard and Whitley Avenue, as "Najib Abboud Lane", and if so to forward this report to Council for its consideration.
Financial Impact

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At its meeting of August 17, 2010, the North York Community Council requested the City Surveyor to submit a report to the North York Community Council on the naming of the public lane, located west of Dufferin Street, between Winston Park Boulevard and Whitley Avenue, as “Najib Abboud Lane”.

The request originated from a Member Motion from Councillor Maria Augimeri which provides the background information on Mr. Abboud, as summarized below:

"Mr. Najib Abboud, a resident of Ward 9, recently celebrated his 105th birthday. His family has lived for the past 50 years in a house located on Dufferin Street, between Wilson Avenue and Hwy 401. There is a public laneway behind their house, stretching from Winston Park Boulevard to Whitley Avenue, that the family has suggested be named “Najib Abboud Lane”. Councillor Augimeri supports this suggestion due to the deeply rooted history and involvement this family has and Mr. Abboud's lifelong contribution to this community."

COMMENTS

The City of Toronto Street Naming Policy approved by City Council at its meeting held on August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000 (Clause 9, Report 15 of the Works Committee) and amended on June 1, 2001, sets out the guidelines and criteria for the naming and renaming of streets and lanes.

The proposed name “Najib Abboud Lane” has been circulated for comment and is acceptable to the North York Preservation Panel, Police, Fire Services and Emergency Medical Services.

The policy states in part that “Names of living persons should be used only in exceptional circumstances”. Councillor Augimeri has commented that "In recognition of Najib Abboud’s service to the community and considering that Mr. Abboud is in his senior years, the naming proposal should be considered as an exceptional circumstance".

The policy states that “Only a person’s last name should be used as a street name unless additional identification is necessary to prevent a duplication with an existing street name in Toronto and surrounding municipalities”. Fire Services have commented that “Abboud” is too similar to “Abbott” Avenue. The use of the full name “Najib Abboud” will prevent confusion in the dispatch of emergency services.
CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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W. (Wally) Kowalenko,
City Surveyor

Attachment – Map