TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Proposal to Rename the Portion of John Street, From Weston Road to the Railway Corridor, to "Peter the Barber Boulevard"

Date:	April 5, 2012
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	City Surveyor
Wards:	11
Reference Number:	P:\2012\Cluster B\TEC\EY12016

SUMMARY

This staff report recommends that the proposed renaming of a portion of John Street, between Weston Road and the Railway Corridor, to "Peter the Barber Boulevard" not be approved because the name does not comply with the street naming policy.

Community Council has delegated authority to approve street names if they comply with the street naming policy. This name does not comply and therefore, if the renaming is supported by Community Council the matter must be referred to City Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Surveyor recommends that:

1. the name "Peter the Barber Boulevard", proposed for the renaming of the portion of John Street between Weston Road and the south limit of the Railway Corridor, not be approved;

Financial Impact

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

A request has been made to rename the portion of John Street between Weston Road and the south limit of the CN/CP Corridor, "Peter the Barber Boulevard". The portion of John Street proposed for renaming is illustrated on Attachment No. 1.

The request was made by Peter Kalamaris, to honour the memory of his late father Peter (the barber) Kalamaris, a longtime resident and community business member. Mr. Kalamaris passed away in October of 2011.

According to the application, Peter Kalamaris was a noteworthy member of the community of Weston since 1961. After emigrating from Greece and obtaining his Canadian citizenship, he settled in the village of Weston and established three businesses in Weston, including Peter's Barber Shop located at 4 John Street.

COMMENTS

The proposed name "Peter the Barber Boulevard" was circulated to Police, EMS, Fire Services and the Preservation Panel for comment. The responses are outlined below:

Service	Comment
Police	Objection - "Too many already begin with Peter."
Fire Services	No objection
EMS	Objection – "Peter Kaiser Gate NY, Peter Street T, Barber Greene Rd NY"
Etobicoke York Preservation Panel	Objection – "John Street should remain John Street as it has for about 150 years."

The proposed name does not conform with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy approved by City Council at its meeting held on August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000 as amended May 30, 31 and June 1, 2001, and included as Attachment 2. The areas of non-compliance are:

1. *"In the case of a name change, the application should also include a petition with name, address and signatures of the persons who reside on or own property that fronts on or is adjacent to the subject street".*
   The petition submitted by the applicant appears to include some of the parties contemplated by this section of the policy, but it is unclear how many actual residents and owners of properties that front on or are adjacent to the subject street are represented. Of the 400 names on the submitted petition, many do not reside on or own property that fronts on or is adjacent to the subject street.

2. *"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."*
   "Peter the Barber" is not the format of name contemplated by the policy. The use of anything but the last name of the individual is contrary to the policy and would have to be approved by City Council.

3. *"Names for public streets that could be construed as advertising a particular business shall be avoided."*
   The proposed name could be construed as advertising "Peter's Barber Shop" which is an existing business located at 4 John Street.

4. Street Type Designations - As this portion of John Street may be closed off in the future at the railway corridor, any name change should use the street type designation "Place" or "Court" to define the configuration of the street, which assists in the dispatch of Emergency Services.

Our office has received an objection to the renaming from the owner of the properties identified as 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21 John Street.

This naming application pre-dates the latest street naming policy adopted by City Council at its meeting of November 30 and December 1, 2011.

Due to non-compliance with the naming policy and the objections raised by Emergency Medical Services, Police Services, the Preservation Panel, and some property owners, it is recommended that the name "Peter the Barber Boulevard" not be approved.

An alternative suggestion is for the applicant to pursue having this portion of John Street "ceremoniously dedicated". This would not result in an official street name change, but rather would entail having the street signs altered to reflect both the official street name and the proposed name to honour Mr. Kalamaris. This option has been discussed with and has the support of Transportation Services staff.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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W. Kowalenko
City Surveyor

ATTACHMENTS

1. MAP
2. POLICY http://www.toronto.ca/mapping/street_naming/index.htm

Attachment No. 1

