



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Naming of a Public Lane located east of Church Street extending southerly from Charles Street East to Isabella Street as "Al Sparrow Lane"**

<b>Date:</b>	April 15, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Manager Land and Property Surveys
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 27
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2013\Cluster B\TEC\ TE13037

**SUMMARY**

---

At its meeting on February 26, 2013 the Toronto and East York Community Council adopted Item TE22.93 which requested the Manager, Land and Property Surveys to investigate and report back on the suitability of naming a public lane as "Al Sparrow Lane".

This report recommends that the name "Al Sparrow Lane" not be approved because it does not comply with the City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy.

Community Councils have delegated authority to decide street naming matters which comply with the City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

Engineering and Construction Services recommends that:

1. Toronto East York Community Council not approve the name "Al Sparrow Lane "

**Financial Impact**

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

## ISSUE BACKGROUND

At its meeting on February 26, 2013, Toronto and East York Community Council adopted Item TE22.93 which contained the following recommendation:

- 1. Requested the Manager, Land and Property Surveys, Toronto and East York District, to investigate and report to Toronto and East York Community Council on the suitability of naming the public lane located east of Church Street extending southerly from Charles Street East as "Al Sparrow Lane".*

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.TE22.93>

The subject lane is shown as Part 1 in Attachment 1– Sketch No. PS-2013-035

The following background information was provided by the Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association.

**"Al Sparrow** – (1944 – April 30, 2008) Al Sparrow was born in Vancouver, British Columbia before moving to Toronto in 1967. He served three terms as a City Councillor from 1974-1980 under Mayor David Crombie as a vocal champion of for civilian oversight of the police, for the vibrancy of downtown neighbourhoods and for cycling infrastructure. As a leading opponent of the Spadina Expressway, the vitality of downtown Toronto owes Mr. Sparrow a huge debt. After vacating his seat on City Council, he remained active in the political life of the city, helping to form Reform Toronto in the 1988 and working to curb expansion of the Toronto Island Airport in the 1990s and 2000s. Renaming the portion of lane east of Church Street running south from Charles Street East to honour Al Sparrow will help commemorate a man who played a crucial role in maintaining the liveability and energy of downtown Toronto."

## COMMENTS

The proposed name has been circulated for comment to Toronto Police Services, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, Toronto Fire Services and the Toronto Preservation Panel.

The proposed name is acceptable to the Toronto Preservation Panel. It is supported by Councillor Wong-Tam. Consent for the proposed name has been provided by Mr. Sparrow's spouse.

The proposed name is not acceptable to Toronto Fire Services, Toronto Emergency Medical Services and Toronto Police Services as there are many streets that begin with "Alan", "Allan" & "Allen". Also there are 3 street names that contain "Sparrow".

The proposed name "Al Sparrow Lane" does not comply with Sections 6.1.5, and 6.3.1.2 of the City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy which state:

*6.1.5 Only a person's last name should be used as a street name unless additional identification is necessary to prevent duplication with an existing street name in Toronto and surrounding municipalities.*

*6.3.1.2 "Similar sounding names such as Beach Avenue and Peach Avenue, or Apple Hill Road and Apple Road should be avoided."*

There are many streets that already begin with "Alan", "Allan" & "Allen" and many that contain Sparrow.

Because this name does not comply with the City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy, it is not recommended for approval.

The City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy can be found at:  
[http://www.toronto.ca/mapping/street\\_naming/index.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/mapping/street_naming/index.htm)

## **CONTACT**

Kerry Ferguson Supervisor Surveys  
Phone: 416-392-7757, Fax: 416-392-0081, E-mail: [kferguso@toronto.ca](mailto:kferguso@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

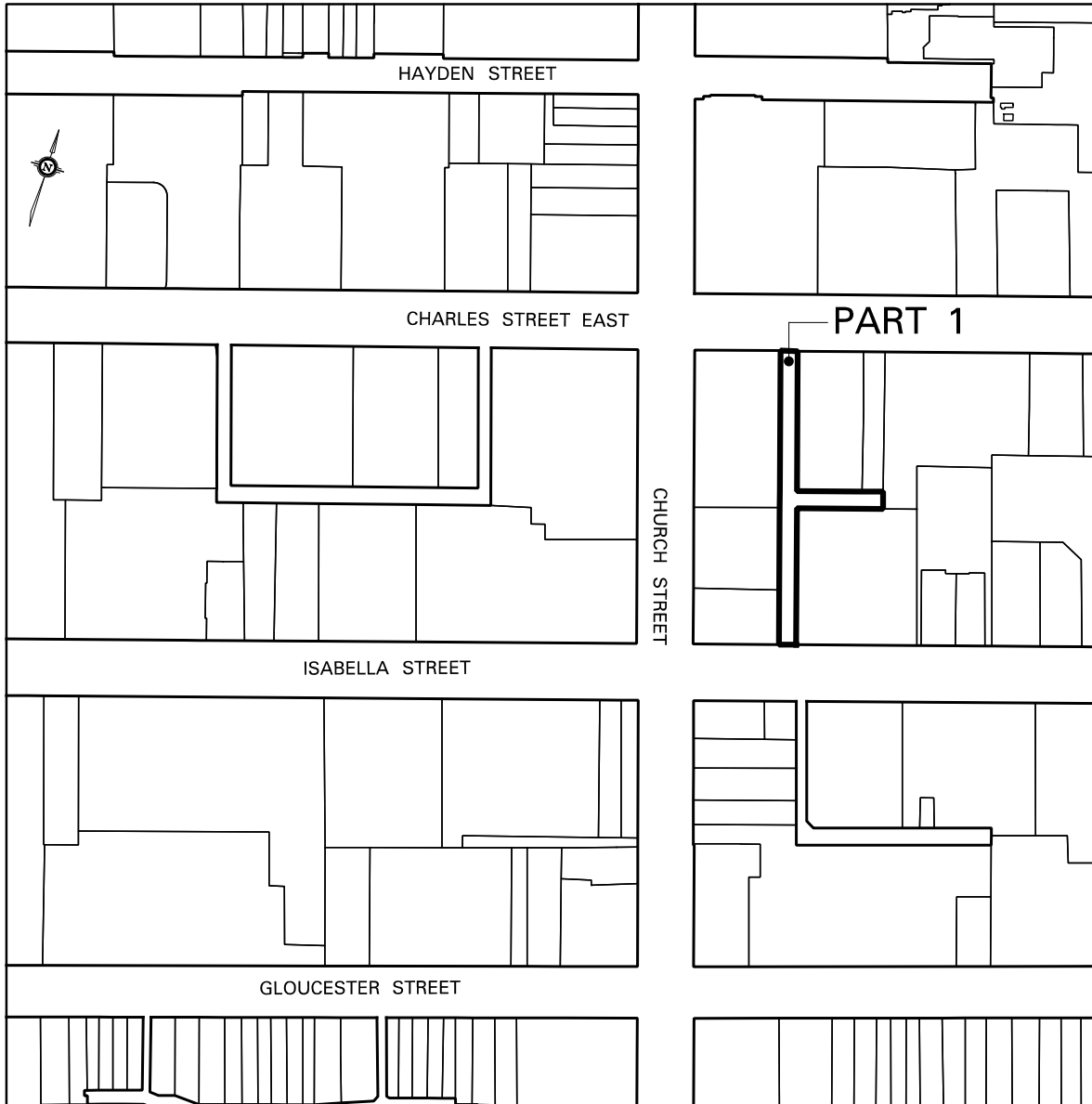
---


Bruce Mcpherson  
Manager Land and Property Surveys  
Engineering Services

## **ATTACHMENT**

Attachment 1– Sketch No. PS-2013-035

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2013-035



 <p>TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION SURVEY &amp; UTILITY MAPPING</p>	<p>PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET</p> <p>SKETCH SHOWING PUBLIC LANE LOCATED EAST OF CHURCH STREET EXTENDING SOUTHERLY FROM CHARLES STREET EAST</p>	
	<p>NOTE: THIS SKETCH HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM OFFICE RECORDS. MEASUREMENTS ARE APPROXIMATE</p>	
	<p>CHECK BY JOHN HOUSE</p>	<p>WARD 27 – TORONTO CENTRE-ROSEDALE</p>
	<p>PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT</p>	<p>DATE: APRIL 10, 2013</p>
		<p>SKETCH No. PS-2013-035</p>