



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Naming of a Public Lane located west of Yonge Street extending between Gibson Avenue and Roxborough Street West

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| Date: | August 2, 2013 |
| To: | Toronto and East York Community Council |
| From: | Manager Land and Property Surveys |
| Wards: | Ward 27 |
| Reference Number: | P:\2013\Cluster B\TEC\TE13042 |

SUMMARY

At its meeting on April 9, 2013 the Toronto and East York Community Council adopted Item TE23.85 which requested the Manager, Land and Property Surveys to report on the suitability of naming the public lane located west of Yonge Street extending northerly from Gibson Avenue as "Paul Hahn Lane".

The proposed name does not comply with the City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy. Therefore, this report recommends that the name not be approved.

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 and East York Community Council not approve the name, "Paul Hahn Lane" to identify the public lane located west of Yonge Street extending between Gibson Avenue and Roxborough Street West.

Financial Impact

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At its meeting on April 9, 2013, Toronto and East York Community Council adopted Item TE23.85 which contained the following recommendation:

"1. Requested the Manager, Land and Property Surveys to investigate and report to Toronto and East York Community Council on the suitability of naming the public lane located west of Yonge Street extending northerly from Gibson Avenue, as "Paul Hahn Lane."

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.TE23.85>

The following background information was provided by a local resident via Councillor Wong Tam's office:

"Paul Hahn (1875-1962) was born in Stuttgart, Germany and moved to Toronto in 1888. As a young man, he was a renowned cellist who played with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, toured across Ontario and New York state, taught cello and conducted Haydn's Kinder Symphony, the first orchestral concert ever at the Arts and Letters Club in 1911. He started Paul Hahn & Company in 1913 where he restored and sold quality pianos, gramophones and sheet music. In 1948, Paul's business moved to its current location at 1058 Yonge Street. The business was handed over to his son, Paul Jr., in 1955, allowing him to concentrate on his music and various committees like the Arts & Letters Club. Paul Sr. was also a recognized authority on extinct and vanishing birds, writing many articles and giving many lectures on the subject. He donated 68 passenger pigeon specimens, as well as his extensive stamp collection, to the ROM, where he was honoured as a Patron and is to this day much revered. Renaming the portion of lane west of Yonge Street running north from Gibson Avenue to honour Paul Hahn will help to commemorate a man whose passion for music and contributions to the Rosedale business community touched and impacted so many.

A letter of support dated May 3, 2013 from the Rosedale Main Street BIA was received which stated:

"The Rosedale Main Street BIA is proud to be home to Paul Hahn & Co. This company which was started in 1913 has been in our BIA since 1973 when Paul Hahn Jr. moved the businesses from Yonge and Avenue Road to Rosedale. It is now owned by Alex Hahn, daughter of Paul Hahn who was a very prominent member of this community before his passing in 2008. He is well remembered by many. Alex continues in his footsteps being involved with the BIA and its initiatives as well as being very connected to her neighbours and the community in general.

We were pleased to learn that Alex is applying to name the alley behind their location at 1058 Yonge Street after her Grandfather, Paul Hahn Sr. who contributed to Toronto in many ways through his music businesses stewardship. We feel that this is a great way to acknowledge the legacy of both Paul and the business. We strongly support this application. Please consider this proposal.

The subject lane is shown as Part 1 on Attachment No. 1 - Sketch No. PS-2013-052.

COMMENTS

The proposed name "Paul Hahn 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."

The City currently has five street names which use "Paul", and one street known as "Hahn Place".

The proposed name was circulated to the first responders and the preservation panel. Toronto Police Services, Toronto Emergency Medical Services and Toronto Fire Services all objected to the name based on its similarity to existing street names. Toronto and East York Community Preservation Panel supported the name.

Councillor Wong-Tam supported the name.

Mary G. Hogarth (nee Hahn), daughter of Paul Hahn Sr. has provided family consent.

Because the proposed name does not comply with the City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy, it is recommended that the name "Paul Hahn Lane" not be approved.

The City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy can be found at:
http://www.toronto.ca/mapping/street_naming/index.htm

CONTACT

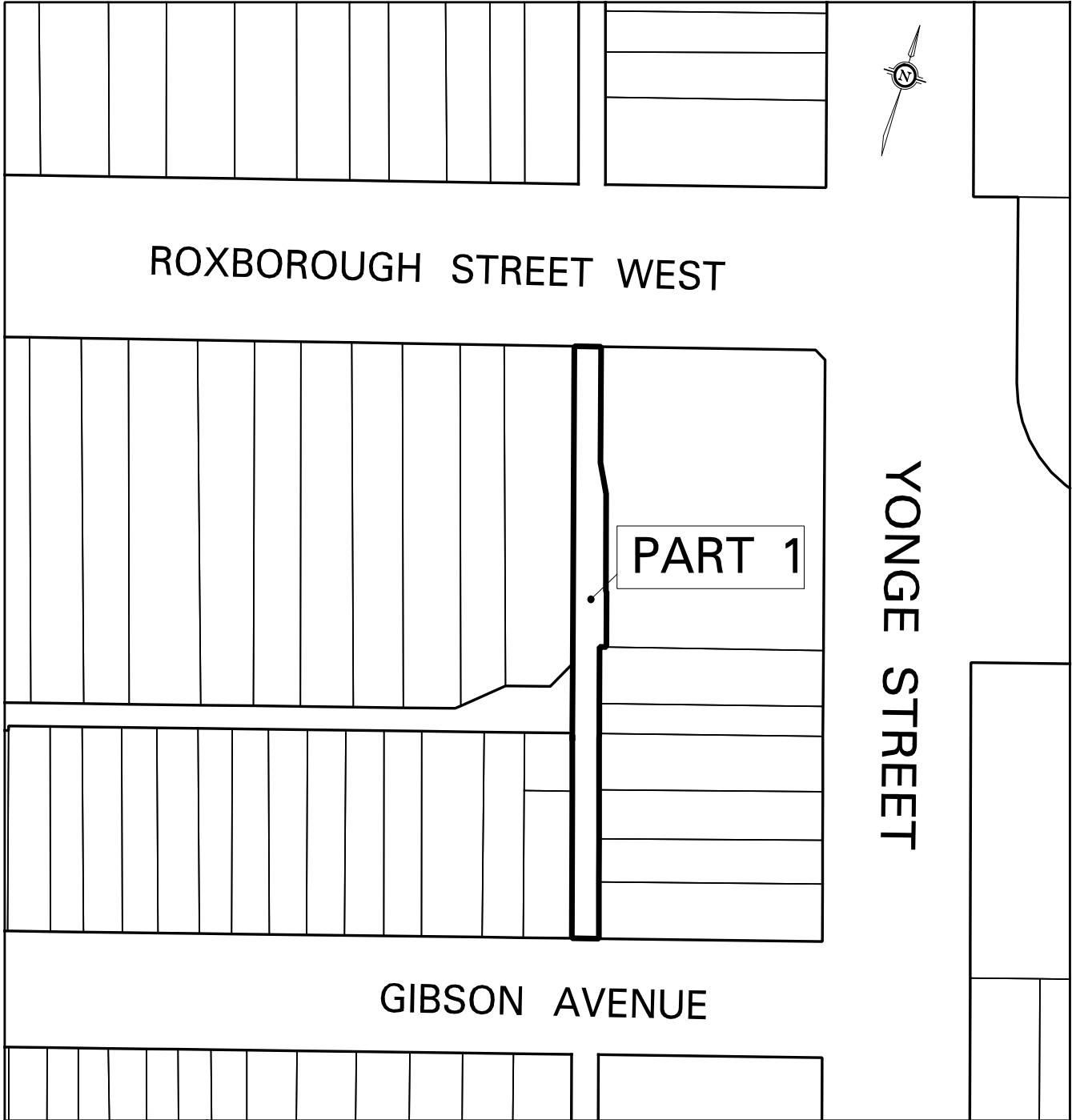
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SIGNATURE

Bruce Mcpherson
Manager Land and Property Surveys
Engineering Services

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 1 – Sketch No. PS-2013-052



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|  TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION SURVEY & UTILITY MAPPING | PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET | |
| | SKETCH SHOWING THE PUBLIC LANE WEST OF YONGE STREET EXTENDING BETWEEN GIBSON AVENUE AND ROXBOROUGH STREET WEST | |
| | WARD 27 - TORONTO CENTRE-ROSEDALE | SKETCH No. PS-2013-052 |
| | DATE: AUGUST 19, 2013 | |
| NOTE: THIS SKETCH HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM OFFICE RECORDS. MEASUREMENTS ARE APPROXIMATE | CHECK BY JOHN HOUSE | |
| | PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT | |