

Feasibility of renaming "St. Clair Gardens Parkette" to "Don Panos Parkette"

Date: March 13, 2017

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Wards: Ward 17 - Davenport

SUMMARY

On October 5, 2016, a request was made to rename the park located at 3 Prescott Avenue to Don Panos Parkette. Property naming and renaming are a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Parks, Forestry, and Recreation has reviewed the proposal, and acknowledges the significant contributions Don Panos made to the City of Toronto, however, this proposal does not meet a requirement in the Council approved Property Naming Policy, specifically section 3.8.7, "Criteria to Name or Rename a City Property" which indicates: "Names of recent events or recently deceased individual may be considered after two years". As Mr. Panos passed away July 12, 2016, this request cannot be recommended by the Division.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that this report be received for information. Community Council may bring the naming proposal forward at such time when the proposal is in compliance with all of the criteria set out in the Property Naming Policy and not require approval by City Council; or, Community Council may bring forward the naming proposal through a recommendation to City Council requesting that Section 3.8.7 of the Property Naming Policy, "Criteria to Name or Rename a City Property" be waived and that St. Clair Gardens Parkette be renamed to "Don Panos Parkette".

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of October 5, 2016, City Council directed the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to investigate the feasibility of renaming the park at 3 Preston Avenue as Don Panos Parkette and report back to Etobicoke York Community Council with a recommendation based on the criteria and process outlined in the Property Naming Policy (MM21.1)

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.MM21.1>

COMMENTS

Don Panos was a founding member of the St. Clair Gardens Business Improvement Area (BIA) and served as Chair for many years until his untimely passing on July 12, 2016. As Chair of the BIA, he was instrumental in leading the area's revitalization initiatives, including the installation of pedestrian lighting and the beautification of entrances to EarlsCourt Park. Don Panos frequently used St. Clair Gardens as a community meeting place and hub for the BIA's Annual Cavalcade of Lights and Corn Roast festivals.

Don Panos led by example and volunteered many hours to the St. Clair Gardens BIA and Toronto Association of BIAs. He frequently served meals at the local church and helped out many neighbours and friends. He knew the importance of "paying it forward".

Parks, Forestry, and Recreation acknowledges the significant contributions Don Panos made to the City of Toronto, however, this proposal does not meet a requirement in the Council - approved Property Naming Policy, specifically section 3.8.7, "Criteria to Name or Rename a City Property" which indicates: "Names of recent events or recently deceased individual may be considered after two years". As Mr. Panos passed away July 12, 2016, this request cannot be recommended by the Division.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that this report be received for information. Community Council may bring the naming proposal forward at such time when the proposal is in compliance with all of the criteria set out in the Property Naming Policy and not require approval by City Council; or, Community Council may bring forward the naming proposal through a recommendation to City Council requesting an exception to the Property Naming Policy.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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