REPORT FOR ACTION

Naming of Public Lane located north of Baldwin Street, extending between Henry Street and McCaul Street

Date: May 25, 2017
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering & Construction Services
Wards: Ward 20 Trinity-Spadina

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Silverstein Lane" be approved to identify a public lane located north of Baldwin Street, extending between Henry Street and McCaul Street.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

Engineering & Construction Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Approve the name "Silverstein Lane" for a public lane located north of Baldwin Street, extending between Henry Street and McCaul Street

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to install 2 street name signs is approximately $500 and is included within the Transportation Services Division Operating Budget

DECISION HISTORY

On June 29, 2016 a request was received from Jeff Silverstein, to name the lane located north of Baldwin Street, extending between Henry Street and McCaul Street
"Silverstein Lane" in honour of Kalman Silverstein. The applicant provided the following information:

"Silverstein Lane"
In 1918, Kalman Silverstein moved to Canada from Poland and brought with him his family's secret rye bread recipe. He opened a small bakery on Baldwin St. in downtown Toronto where he baked breads and pastries in a brick oven. The main floor housed the storefront, while his young family lived upstairs. Silverstein’s Bakery started a small neighbourhood business. Kalman baked bread and a variety of delicious pastries that were delivered throughout the community by horse and buggy. He became known not only for his famous rye bread and mouth-watering cinnamon rolls, but also for his generosity. Each Friday night Kalman would close his shop for the Sabbath. Knowing however that many of his neighbours couldn't afford to use their ovens, he would leave the ovens hot and let families come to the bakery to cook chickens for their Sabbath family dinners.

Three generations of the Silverstein family have been operating the Silverstein Bakery since 1918 until 2016. This business which was a significant fixture in the Grange neighbourhood for nearly 100 years. The Toronto Star article on its closure noted the following:
Those whose businesses relied on the bakery say its closure leaves a void not only in Toronto’s culinary scene, but also in the city’s Jewish culture.
“Jewish baking is a dying art,” said Caplansky. “It’s a sad and shocking thing because they’ve been part of the fabric of the Jewish food community, the food community in general, for generations.”

This proposal has the support of the Grange Community Association whose boundaries extend from University to Spadina and from Queen to College Street.

COMMENTS

The proposed name has been circulated for comment and is acceptable to Toronto Police Service, Toronto Fire Services, Toronto Paramedic Services and Councillor Cressy.

Consent was provided by Jeff Silverstein.

Community support in the form of a petition from the owners whose properties abut the lane was provided by the applicant. This naming proposal also has support from the Grange Community Association and Orde Street Junior Public School.

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2017-032.

This naming proposal complies with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy.
Street Naming Policy.
CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Mika Raisanen, P. Eng.
Director
Engineering Support Services
Engineering & Construction Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2017-032
NAMING OF A PUBLIC LANE NORTH OF BALDWIN STREET, EXTENDING BETWEEN HENRY STREET AND MCCAUl STREET

PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET

WARD 20 – TRINITY-SPADINA
DATE: APRIL 05, 2017

SKETCH No. PS-2017-032