

City Council

MM11.17	ACTION			Ward: 6
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Request for report on the feasibility of naming a new parkette at 167 Armour Boulevard - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Michael Thompson

** Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the North York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Michael Thompson, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to consult the nearby community and report to the North York Community Council on name options for a new parkette to be built at the corner of Armour Boulevard and Westgate Boulevard.

Summary

The lands originally known as 167 Armour Boulevard in Ward 6, have become a landmark of the Armour Heights Community. Commonly referred as the "white picket fenced house", the aforementioned property was home to the Appleby family since 1972. A welcoming, friendly and community oriented family, the Applebys were widely known across the Armour Heights neighbourhood. In 2016, after the passing of Jerry Sheldon Appleby, a charismatic and hardworking Torontonian, his wife Gwen Appleby made the tough decision to sell the property where she and Jerry built a family together.

Shortly after it was sold, the lot was proposed for severance. The Armour Heights residents quickly came together to propose a better use, other than densification, for the iconic triangular shaped parcel. Through numerous discussions between the engaged residents, the new property owner and City Staff, 167 Armour Boulevard was unanimously identified as a significant piece of land that could be secured for public enjoyment. Spearheaded by Councillor James Pasternak, a deal was closed in late 2018, where the City of Toronto would build a new parkette at the corner of Westgate Boulevard and Armour Boulevard. The new public space will eventually unlock the pedestrian-busy corner to residents, visitors and students at the neighbouring school.

Demolition of the previously existing house has recently been completed and park design focus discussions, between the Councillor's office, Parks staff and residents, will begin shortly. As a result, the new parkette will need a name to the satisfaction of the Armour Heights Community.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM11.17