

## **Naming of an existing Public Lane north of Airdrie Road, east of Bayview Avenue**

**Date:** April 3, 2019

**To:** North York Community Council

**From:** Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services

**Wards:** 15 Don Valley West

### **SUMMARY**

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This report recommends that the name "Edna Beange Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located north of Airdrie Road, east of Bayview Avenue.

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

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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Engineering and Construction Services recommends that North York Community Council:

1. Approve the name "Edna Beange Lane" for an existing public lane located north of Airdrie Road, east of Bayview Avenue.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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

### **DECISION HISTORY**

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This is the first time that this issue is before Community Council.

## COMMENTS

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An application was received on December 31, 2018 from the Chair of the Toronto and East York Community Preservation Panel to name the existing lane located north of Airdrie Road, east of Bayview Avenue, "Edna Beange Lane", in honour of a local citizen and community service activist. The following information was provided by the applicant:

### **Edna Beange**

*"Born in Saskatoon in 1920, Jessie Edna Beange, commonly known as "Edna", moved to Vancouver at the age of six with her father, shortly after her mother died of cancer. She moved to Leaside, what would later become part of in the former East York, with her husband, George in 1948. They raised two children, Donald Beange and Jean Paradis. As well as being a homemaker, she assisted with the cartage business in 1973, when her husband died of a brain tumour.*

*In 1969 she co-founded the East York Meals on Wheels Program through the Leaside United Church, which she attends. Sunnybrook Hospital provided food in bulk which was then packaged and delivered by volunteers. The program expanded to other local churches and a second Meals on Wheels program in East York. .*

*Two years after George passed, she entered local politics. Edna was the second woman to serve as alderman in East York serving for 3 terms (1975-88), following in the tradition of True Davidson. As an early role model for women in municipal politics, she demonstrated that women with broad community roots and extensive volunteer experience could influence the political agenda.*

*Her work with the Children's Aid Society, The Canadian Mental Health Association, East Metro Youth Services and the Day Nursery Review Board between 1975 and 1985 demonstrates her concern for providing services for children and youth. For over 50 years, Edna was a seniors activist serving on committees and boards of over 20 agencies, many of these in East York, which has the second highest proportion of seniors to the general population in Canada. She made a difference on the East York Board of Health and the Metro Toronto District Health Council by examining the health care needs of aging seniors and establishing services to meet their needs. She worked tirelessly so that seniors, who were mainly women, could remain independent in their own or shared homes with first-rate community health care. Meals on Wheels, Sharing, East York Community Care, Call-A-Service, and Hospital Special Needs are all organizations that Edna founded, chaired or supported with committee work.*

*In 1986, Edna encouraged interest in gardening in the community, as an original founder of the Leaside Garden Society and in 1988 she became Board chair and fundraiser of the East York Symphony Orchestra, showing awareness for the social and cultural needs of the community.*

*In the 1990s, Edna chaired Stay At Home In Leaside (SAHIL), a life-lease program that helps seniors maintain residency in their community. The building at 1387 Bayview Ave was completed in 1998 and she led the way by becoming one of the first residents. But the thing, she is most proud of is advocating for new street signs since 1999, with larger type so they are easier for seniors to read.*

*In 1994, Edna won the Agnes Macphail award in its inaugural year. Macphail, the first Canadian woman elected to the House of Commons in 1921, also represented the riding of East York in the Ontario Legislature in 1943. The annual award is presented to outstanding residents of East York who continue Macphail's interest in areas such as women's rights, fairness to seniors, penal reform, and access to housing, health care and education.*

*Edna Beange was the first woman on the Board of Governors of the former Toronto East General Hospital. She served 5 years between 1976 and 1994, and a further 4 years on the Board of Directors. She brought her experience as a consumer and her political skills to her role, providing a voice for the citizens of East York. In 1999, she was appointed Honorary Director in recognition of outstanding service to the Hospital and its community, at the Foundation Dinner.*

*She also received the Governor General's Caring Canadian award in 2001 from the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.*

*Edna Beange, an active senior with a commitment to service has a history of leadership in her community. She has made a describable difference in influencing programs that can best assist children and youth, and a record for developing services which foster community-based living for the elderly."*

Consent was given by Don Beange, son of the named party. Edna Beange passed away on January 7, 2019.

This naming was reviewed under the provisions of Section 3.8 of the Street Naming Policy which states:

*"3.8 Street names, including ceremonial names, shall not:*

*"3.8.6 Make a direct or indirect reference to recent events or recently deceased individuals, except where the event or the individual had a legacy or significant contributions to the City of Toronto. Names of recent events or recently deceased individual may be considered after two years"*

Based on the significant contributions made by Edna Beange, it is determined that this naming is in compliance with the Street Naming Policy.

The proposed name has been circulated for comment and is acceptable to Toronto Police Service, Toronto Fire Services, Toronto Paramedic Services and Councillor Robinson. Community support was demonstrated with a petition of signatures from some of the property owners/ residents who directly abut the lane.

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2019-027.

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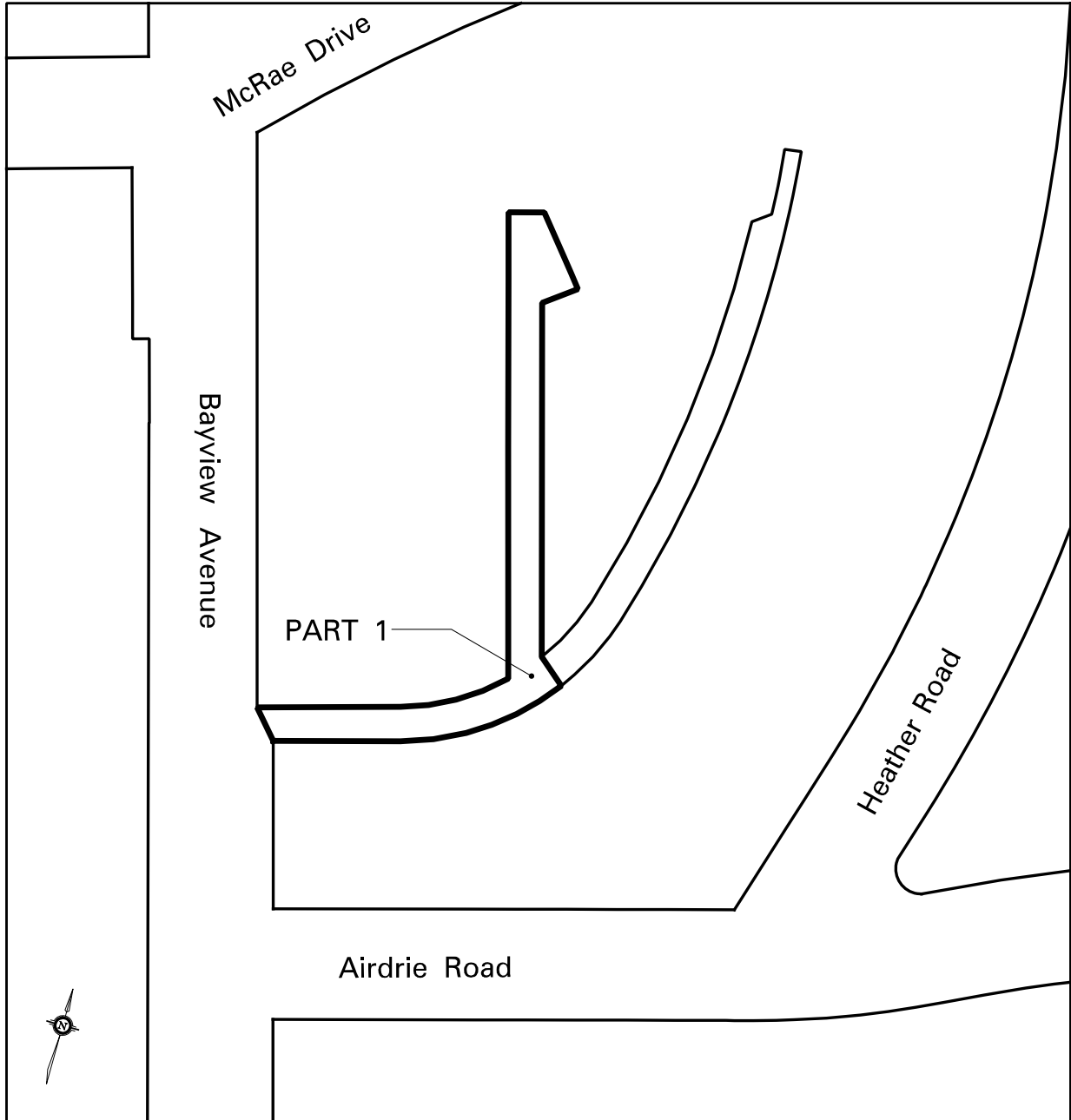
Mika Raisanen, P. Eng., Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2019-027

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2019-027, showing the location of an existing public lane located north of Airdrie Road, extending easterly from Bayview Avenue.



NOTE:  
THIS SKETCH HAS BEEN  
COMPILED FROM OFFICE  
RECORDS. MEASUREMENTS  
ARE APPROXIMATE

CHECK BY JOHN HOUSE  
PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT

PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET  
NAMING OF AN EXISTING PUBLIC LANE NORTH OF  
AIRDRIE, EAST OF BAYVIEW AVENUE

WARD 15 - DON VALLEY WEST  
DATE: MARCH 21, 2019

SKETCH No. PS-2019-027