



## REPORT FOR ACTION

# Naming of an existing Public Lane Bounded by Harbord Street, Palmerston Boulevard, Ulster Street and Euclid Avenue

**Date:** April 3, 2019

**To:** Toronto and East York Community Council

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

**Wards:** 11 University-Rosedale

### SUMMARY

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The Palmerston Area Residents Association recently requested the naming of 8 existing public lanes bounded by Harbord Street, Markham Street, College Street and Grace Street. At its meeting on February 14, 2019, Toronto and East York Community Council adopted Item TE3.1 which named 7 of these lanes. The 8<sup>th</sup> lane was not named at that meeting because proper consent had not yet been provided for this name. Consent has since been received, and this report recommends that the name "Jewish Folk Choir Lane" be approved to identify the remaining existing public lane.

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

1. Approve the name "Jewish Folk Choir Lane" for the existing public lane bounded by Harbord Street, Palmerston Boulevard, Ulster Street and Euclid Avenue.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

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The cost to install signage is approximately \$500.00 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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On October 20, 2016, an application was received from the Palmerston Area Residents Association via Councillor Layton's office, to name 8 existing public lanes in the blocks bounded by Harbord Street, Markham Street, College Street and Grace Street. At its meeting on February 14, 2019, Toronto and East York Community Council adopted Item TE3.1 which successfully named 7 of these lanes. The 8<sup>th</sup> remaining lane was not named at that meeting because proper consent had not yet been provided for this name. Consent has since been received, and the 8<sup>th</sup> remaining lane is the subject of this report.

The following summary has been provided by the applicant:

### **Jewish Folk Choir Lane**

*"Everyone has heard of the Mendelssohn Choir. The Jewish Folk Choir is less well known, even though its story is deeply and inextricably connected to the community we call Palmerston. The choir was founded in 1925 by factory workers in the textile trade in and around Spadina Avenue, both as a recreational outlet and as a way to bring Yiddish musical culture to the Jewish community. In 1939, it hired Emil Gartner, recently arrived from Austria, to serve as its conductor. Together with his wife Fagel, Emil built the choir into a choral powerhouse. Under Emil's charismatic leadership, the Jewish Folk Choir was able to attract superstars like Paul Robeson and Jan Peerce to sing with them; to commission or premiere new choral works; and to sing on a regular basis at Massey Hall with the Toronto Symphony. Throughout this period, the choir's epicentre was the Gartner's apartment in a house at 388 Palmerston Boulevard".*

Consent to the use of the name was given by Frumie Diamond, past board member and representative for various past Choir members.

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

Community Support was demonstrated via a petition of signatures from the property owners/residents abutting the lanes.

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2019-035

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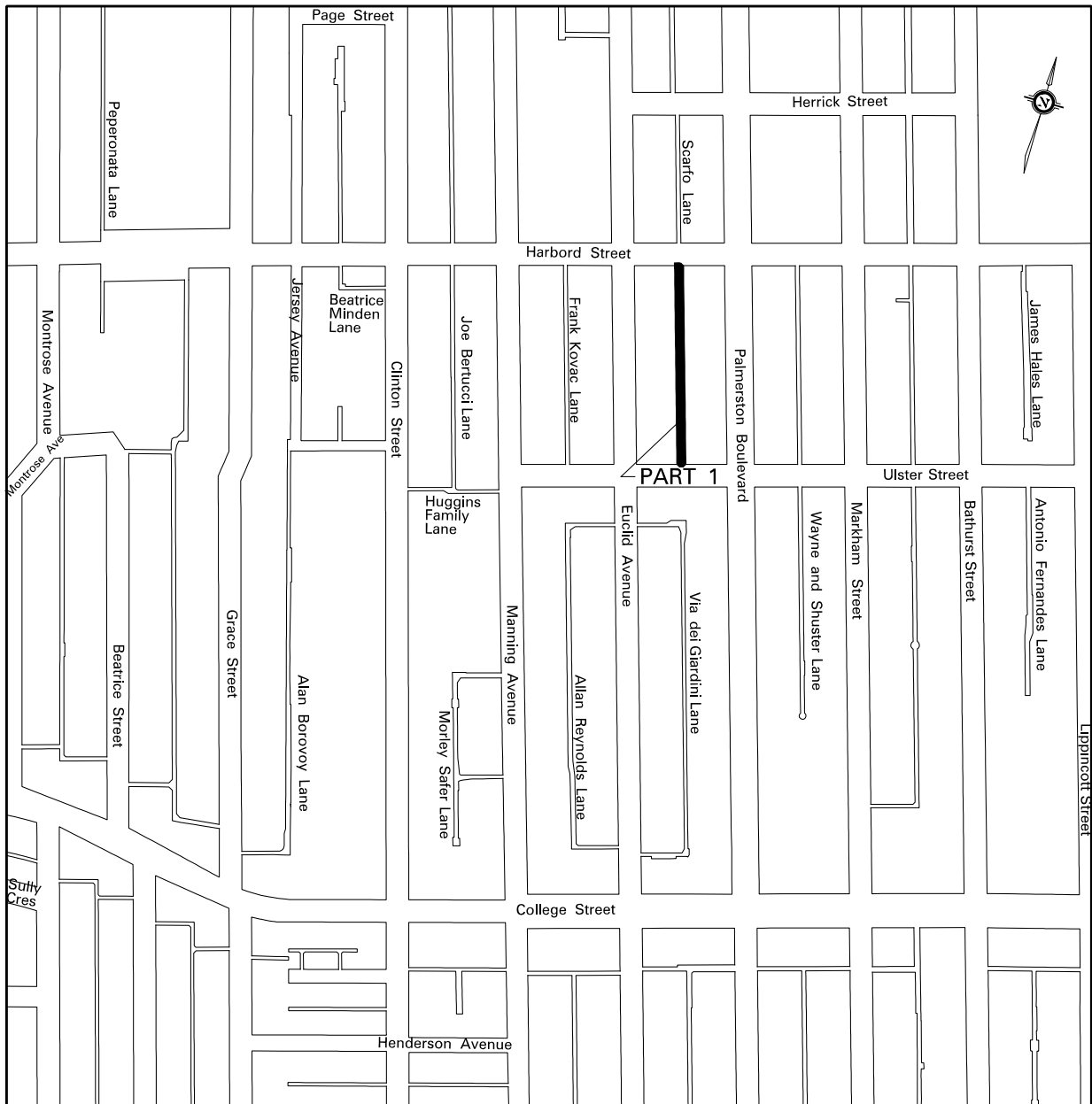
Mika Raisanen, P. Eng., Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2019-035

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2019-035, showing the location of the public lanes bounded by Harbord Street, Palmerston Boulevard, Ulster Street and Euclid 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 BOUNDED**  
**BY HARBORD STREET, PALMERSTON BOULEVARD,**  
**ULSTER STREET AND EUCLID AVENUE**

WARD 11 – UNIVERSITY-ROSEDALE  
DATE: APRIL 03, 2019

SKETCH N . PS-2019-035