

Request to Rename "Wilson Heights Parkette" to "Michael Feldman Parkette"

Date: May 20, 2020

To: North York Community Council

From: General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Wards: Ward 6 – York Centre

SUMMARY

On June 18, 2019, a request was by City Council made through item MM8.32, to explore the feasibility of renaming Wilson Heights Parkette, located at 576 Wilson Heights Boulevard, to Michael Feldman Parkette. Property naming and renaming are a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division has reviewed the Council-approved City of Toronto Property Naming Policy and found that this naming proposal meets the policy criteria and process.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that Wilson Heights Parkette, located at 576 Wilson Heights Boulevard, be renamed to Michael Feldman Parkette.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. North York Community Council adopt the renaming of Wilson Heights Parkette, located at 576 Wilson Heights Boulevard, to Michael Feldman Parkette.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of June 18, 2019, City Council directed the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to investigate the feasibility of renaming "Wilson Heights Parkette", located at 576 Wilson Heights Boulevard, to "Michael Feldman Parkette" and report back to North York Community Council with a recommendation based on the criteria and process outlined in the Property Naming Policy (MM8.32) <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.MM8.32>

COMMENTS

Former City Councillor and businessman, Michael Feldman was considered a champion for local and City-wide issues. He held office for 18 years in York Centre, served as a Deputy Mayor, and chaired the Metro Housing Development Corporation.

Residents believed in his vision of building a community with beautiful greenspaces, public art, and vibrant local businesses. He championed and raised funds for the colourful mural on the wall of the 401 at the southeast corner of Bathurst Street and Wilson Avenue.

The Wilson Heights Parkette sits in the heart of Bathurst Manor where much of Mr. Feldman's work was directed. The renaming will honour Mr. Feldman's municipal contribution to the community.

The current park name shares the same identifier with Wilson Heights Park, located at 325 Wilson Heights Boulevard, and renaming will distinguish the two locations.

Public Consultation

In accordance with the City of Toronto, Property Naming Policy, Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff produced and posted a temporary sign in the park advising the local community and parks users of the request to rename Wilson Heights Parkette to Michael Feldman Parkette. The sign solicited comments and feedback from July 30 to October 15, 2019. Parks, Forestry and Recreation received four responses and noted that the majority of respondents supported the renaming request.

CONTACT

Donna Kovachis, Interim Director, Parks, Tel: 416-392-7911, Email:
Donna.Kovachis@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Janie Romoff
General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation