

Naming of an existing Public Lane west of Widmer Street, extending southerly from Adelaide Street West

Date: December 11, 2019

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

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

Wards: 10 Spadina-Fort York

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Glicksman Glick Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located west of Widmer Street, extending southerly from Adelaide Street West.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Approve the name "Glicksman Glick Lane" for an existing public lane west of Widmer Street, extending southerly from Adelaide Street West.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to install street name signage is approximately \$500.00 and is included within the Transportation Services Division's Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

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

COMMENTS

An application was received on June 17, 2019, from the son of one of the named parties, requesting to name the existing public lane located west of Widmer Street, extending southerly from Adelaide Street West as, "Glicksman Glick Lane" honouring two local community figures prominent in the King-Spadina area.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

"Glicksman Glick Lane"

"Max Glicksman and Morris Glick were two brothers with a long and positive association with the King-Spadina area. After being uprooted from their home in Poland during World War II, enduring slave labour, confinement to various ghettos, and a concentration camp they immigrated to Canada in the late 1940s with little money but boundless ambition. Having been apprenticed as tailors in Poland they worked briefly for others in the garment shops of Spadina Ave. In the early 1950s they began the manufacture of their own line of men's outerwear in the basement of Morris' home under the name "Slick Brothers". Their business quickly grew allowing them to rent manufacturing space on Richmond Ave. West, just east of Spadina. They acquired the reputation as the hardest working men on Spadina". With hard work came a measure of prosperity allowing them to purchase, in partnership with the two Koplowitz brothers, 46 Spadina Avenue. The third and fourth floor of that building became home to their expanding business which they now called Mac Mor Sportwear Limited ("Mac" for Max and "Mar" for Morris). In the early 1970s they purchased 366 Adelaide Street West, upgrading the building and moving Mac Mor there. At its height, the business occupied five floors, providing employment for 250 people and selling their products throughout Canada. In the mid-1980's Max' son Harry and Morris' son, Martin, joined the business which, at that time, not only manufactured and imported men's outerwear but, with the purchase of other buildings in the area, became a Landlord to many of the other clothing manufacturing businesses in King Spadina.

With the decline of clothing manufacturing in Canada in the early 1990s, the brothers recognized that the buildings they owned would have to be repurposed. With other property owners they advocated with the City of Toronto to change the zoning by-laws to permit non-manufacturing uses and ultimately the City agreed, designating King Spadina as a Regeneration Area. With the incentive that the change in zoning provided, the brothers initiated a program of revitalizing their buildings, including upgrading their electrical and mechanical systems, installing new windows and providing high speed internet connectivity. Those buildings now house a variety of businesses in the creative economy ranging from architects to software developers to interior designers. The City of Toronto has recognized three of the buildings with heritage designations and, thanks to the brothers' vision, they can be expected to remain vibrant parts of the City's heritage fabric for many years to come.

Max Glicksman passed away in 2010 and Morris Glick passed away in 2014 but the Glick and Glicksman families maintain ownership of the properties the brothers acquired operating under the name Capitol Buildings. It is fitting that the lane that is proposed to bear their name abuts 317 Adelaide Street West, the Commodore Building, a designated heritage building and one that has graced the cover of reports by the City of Toronto Planning Department dealing with heritage issues."

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 the sons of the named parties.

Community support was demonstrated with a petition of signatures from property owners/ residents who directly abut the lane as well as a letter of support from the Toronto Entertainment District BIA.

This naming proposal complies with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy which can be found at <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/street-naming/>

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2019-134.

CONTACT

Tony Rodrigues, Manager, Land and Property Surveys, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services, Telephone: 416 396-7140, Email: Tony.F.Rodrigues@toronto.ca

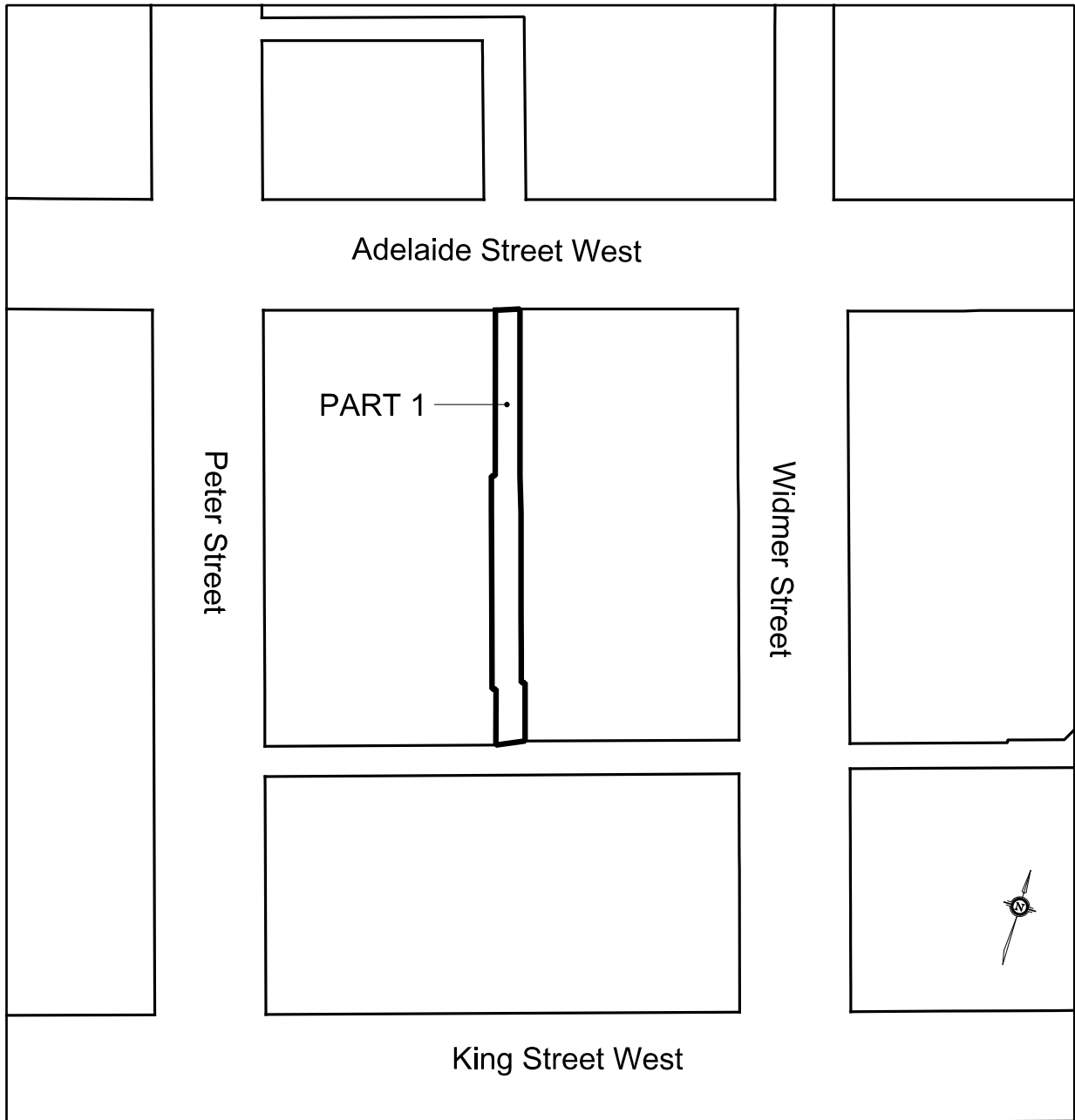
SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2019-134

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2019-134, showing the location of an existing public lane located west of Widmer Street, extending southerly from Adelaide Street West.



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 WEST OF
WIDMER STREET, EXTENDING SOUTHERLY FROM
ADELAIDE STREET WEST

WARD 10 - SPADINA-FORT YORK
DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2019

SKETCH No. PS-2019-134