# **TORONTO**

# REPORT FOR ACTION

# Naming of an existing Public Lane north of Queen Street West extending between Beverley Street and John Street.

Date: February 25, 2019

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

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

**Wards:** Ward 10 – Spadina-Fort York

#### **SUMMARY**

This report recommends that the name "Elaine Martin Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located north of Queen Street, extending between Beverley Street and John Street.

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 "Elaine Martin Lane" for an existing public lane located north of Queen Street, extending between Beverley Street and John Street.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to install street name signage is approximately \$500 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 January 3, 2020, from a resident requesting to name the existing public lane located north of Queen Street, extending between Beverley Street and John Street as, "Elaine Martin Lane" honouring a local entrepreneur in the Toronto's fashion district.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

#### "Elaine Martin Lane"

"Around 1980 my wife, Elaine Martin moved to Toronto with her then partner John and opened their first retail store in the Queen Street West and John Street area, a vintage clothing store called Style Zone. They had a few other stores in the area and eventually Elaine helped John open Black Market Vintage before going her separate way and opening Groovy Shoes. Originally called Groovy L Waves, located at Yonge and Wellesley, she soon moved the store to Queen West and John Street where she ran it for almost 30 years and where it still does business today. For many years her stock was stored in a building on Beverly Street just north of the laneway which I'm proposing be named after her, and she ran a vintage clothing store in that building as well as some of her employees living in the apartments above the business. When that building was demolished to make way for the 15 Beverly Street Condos she moved her storage warehouse to a second floor store on Queen Street and opened another vintage store there, next door to her shoe store. As well as the numerous businesses she opened herself she was part of the community of the area, offering help, advice, and in some instances I know of even loans to other businesses in the area. She was the first person to import and sell Doc Martin boots and shoes in Toronto. Although the area has changed over the years with many clothing stores opening larger flagship stores, her store, Groovy, and the store she helped open, Black Market, are both still there, two of the last original, independently owned clothing stores in the area."

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

Elaine Martin passed away March 2017.

Consent was provided by Allan Ridley, the spouse of the named party.

Community support was demonstrated with a petition of signatures from property owners/ residents who directly abut the lane.

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

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2020-004.

# **CONTACT**

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# **SIGNATURE**

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

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-004

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-004, showing the location of an existing public lane located north of Queen Street, extending between Beverley Street and John Street.

