

REPORT FOR ACTION

Naming of the Existing Public Lane West of Euclid Avenue, Extending Southerly from Lennox Street

Date: June 18, 2020
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services
Wards: Ward 11 – University-Rosedale

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Giuseppe Rauti Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located west of Euclid Avenue, extending southerly from Lennox 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 "Giuseppe Rauti Lane" for an existing public lane located west of Euclid Avenue, extending southerly from Lennox 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 February 19, 2020, via Councillor Layton's office requesting to name the existing public lane located west of Euclid Avenue, extending southerly from Lennox Street as, "**Giuseppe Rauti Lane**" in honour of a local community figure.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

"Giuseppe Rauti Lane"

Letter of support from Saint Francis of Assisi Parish dated August 19, 2019:

"One of the first people I came to know upon my arrival was Joe Rauti, who is sometimes called Joseph or Giuseppe or affectionately "Joe Jesus". Joe has been active in our Good Friday Procession that has walked the streets annually for over fifty years. The procession has become an important part of the cultural and religious fabric of Toronto, with people making the trip in, even from communities outside of the GTA. St Francis of Assisi and St Agnes formed the landing pad for most newly arrived immigrants from post-WWII Italy. Many people who are part of this history make the return pilgrimage to the old neighbourhood for The Good Friday Procession. Joe is an identifiable and important part of the Procession experience. He has been interviewed by different news and cultural media year after year. But Good Friday is not the only time we see Joe. He is part of the welcoming ministry here at St Francis because he is an extrovert, it is not uncommon to see him striking up a conversation with returning friends and with new faces coming to Mass. You can call Joe a "good will ambassador".

We can also count on Joe to volunteer his time and energy and to roll up his sleeves to work on our annual outdoor nativity scene and to help assemble the floats that are carried in the Good Friday procession and another traditional procession honouring a number of saints. This takes place on the second last weekend of September. But Joe is available anytime we call upon him.

Joe is generous with his volunteer work and a boon to our community. All of this goes on without neglecting his duties at home and if you know Joe you know that his plate is full on that front as well.

I believe that we would be honoured and proud should this honour of naming a Lane in his honour were to become a reality."

Consent was provided by the named party.

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

Due to the Covid19 virus and physical distancing guidelines, a letter for support was delivered to the mail box of all abutting property owners requesting that they contact Councillor Layton to express concerns and/or support. There were no noted objections or concerns with the proposed name. Councillor Layton supports this naming proposal and is satisfied with the level of support demonstrated (letter from the Local Parish).

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-2020-024.

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-2020-024

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-024, showing the location of an existing public lane located west of Euclid Avenue, extending southerly from Lennox Street.

