DA TORONTO

REPORT FOR ACTION

Naming of an existing Public Lane west of Spadina Road, extending between Bantry Avenue and Heath Street West

Date: August 21, 2020
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services
Wards: Ward 12 – Toronto-St. Paul's

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Irene Jaskulka Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located west of Spadina Road, extending between Bantry Avenue and Heath 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 "Irene Jaskulka Lane" for an existing public lane located west of Spadina Road, extending between Bantry Avenue and Heath Street West.

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

An application was received on July 6, 2020, from a resident requesting to name the existing public lane located west of Spadina Road, extending between Bantry Avenue and Heath Street West as, "Irene Jaskulka Lane" honouring a local community figure.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

"Irene Jaskulka Lane"

"Irene Jaskulka was renting an apartment at 230 Heath Street in March, 1982 when she, and all of her neighbours at 230 and the adjoining building at 232 Heath Street West, were served with 90 day evictions notices. 230 and 232 Heath Street West were in the process of being sold for the redevelopment of a new condominium tower. Irene and several of the existing tenants in the 49 units formed a residents committee to explore the possibilities of forming a non-profit housing co-operative and save the existing circa 1930's buildings. Following a complicated legal process in conjunction with the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto lawyers and with the involvement of interested municipal and federal politicians, the Heath Street Housing Cooperative Incorporated (HSHCI) was formed and funded by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) by way of a 35 year mortgage. The buildings were saved. The existing tenants moved out and fundamental renovations and restorations were carried out between June and November 1, 1982.

Many of the existing tenants including Irene who were involved in the process of forming the Co-op moved back November 1 to 230-232 Heath Street West, many to their former apartment units. Irene moved back into unit 317 which abuts the currently unnamed laneway at the south east corner of building 230.

Throughout the life of the HSHCI, Irene played an active role on the Board of Directions and Committees that propelled the duty to day functioning of the buildings and the Coop community.

Irene was diagnosed with terminal cancer at the time when the 35 year mortgage on the building came to an end. Sadly she passed away September 25, 2018. It would seem fitting to name the currently unnamed city laneway in memory of Irene."

This naming was reviewed under the provisions of Section 3.8 of the Street Naming Policy which states:

"3.8 Street names, including ceremonial names, shall not:

"3.8.6 Make a direct or indirect reference to recent events or recently deceased individuals, except where the event or the individual had a legacy or significant contributions to the City of Toronto. Names of recent events or recently deceased individual may be considered after two years"

Irene Jaskulka passed away on September 25, 2018.

Based on the named party's contributions to the Heath Street Co-op community, it is determined that this naming is in compliance with the Street Naming Policy.

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

Consent was provided by Erin Jaskulka, sister 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 https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/street-naming/

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2020-048.

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-2020-048

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-048, showing the location of an existing public lane located west of Spadina Road, extending between Bantry Avenue and Heath Street West.

