

Naming of an existing Public Lane south of Eglinton Avenue West, extending between Flanders Road and Westover Hill Road

Date: December 3, 2020

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

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

Wards: 12 Toronto-St. Paul's Councillor Josh Matlow

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Owen Weinstein Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located south of Eglinton Avenue West, extending between Flanders Road and Westover Hill Road.

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/>

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Approve the name "Owen Weinstein Lane" for an existing public lane located south of Eglinton Avenue West, extending between Flanders Road and Westover Hill Road.

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 October 7, 2020, from a resident requesting to name the existing public lane located south of Eglinton Avenue West, extending between Flanders Road and Westover Hill Road as, "Owen Weinstein Lane" honouring a brave young man who lost his battle to cancer in 2018.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

"Owen Weinstein Lane"

"Tragically, Owen Daniel Weinstein lost his five-year battle with a very aggressive form of cancer at the tender age of fourteen. Owen was a fearless and courageous warrior who lost his battle with this insidious illness on September 12, 2018 - many, many years too early.

The location of the proposed Lane – between Westover Hill Road and Flanders Road - is very fitting given that Owen was an active member, and an integral part of, the Cedarvale community. Owen attended Cedarvale Community School, and established many friendships with his classmates and teachers. He was also a member of a local synagogue, where he celebrated his Bar Mitzvah last year, having been released from hospital only a couple of days before the event.

Owen also maintained a highly visible presence in the community; he could often be seen skateboarding up and down Westover Hill Road and Eglinton Avenue West, bicycling along neighbouring streets, or playing basketball with friends on his driveway. The proposed Owen Weinstein Lane would be situated directly across from the "Dov Altman Lane". Dov and Owen had a very special relationship, beginning from the time that Owen moved to Westover Hill in 2004 until Dov's passing in 2015. As Owen's illness progressed, their relationship strengthened, leading to an unbreakable bond between them.

Owen was a hero – he fought this horrific disease with grace, dignity, and tenacity; he always remained positive in the face of extreme adversity. He was a hero to Sick Kids Hospital: serving as their "Ambassador"-speaking at numerous public events about his medical journey and challenges to raise money for, and awareness of, childhood cancers. At one such event, he addressed medical students at the University of Toronto in order to allow them to understand what the experience of being a cancer patient was like.

In summary, while we all have our special memories of Owen, the proposed Owen Weinstein Lane will serve as a constant reminder and tribute to this brave, heroic and fearless child. It will be a most deserving and fitting honour in respect of a young boy that our Cedarvale "village" lost far too soon. Owen taught all of us to be strong and to maintain positivity when we are challenged and to keep laughing and smiling - even under the most difficult and egregious circumstances."

Owen Weinstein passed away on September 12, 2018.

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

Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 12 Toronto-St. Paul's, supports this naming.

Consent was provided by Lesly and Peter Weinstein, parents of the named party.

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

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

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS 2020-075.

CONTACT

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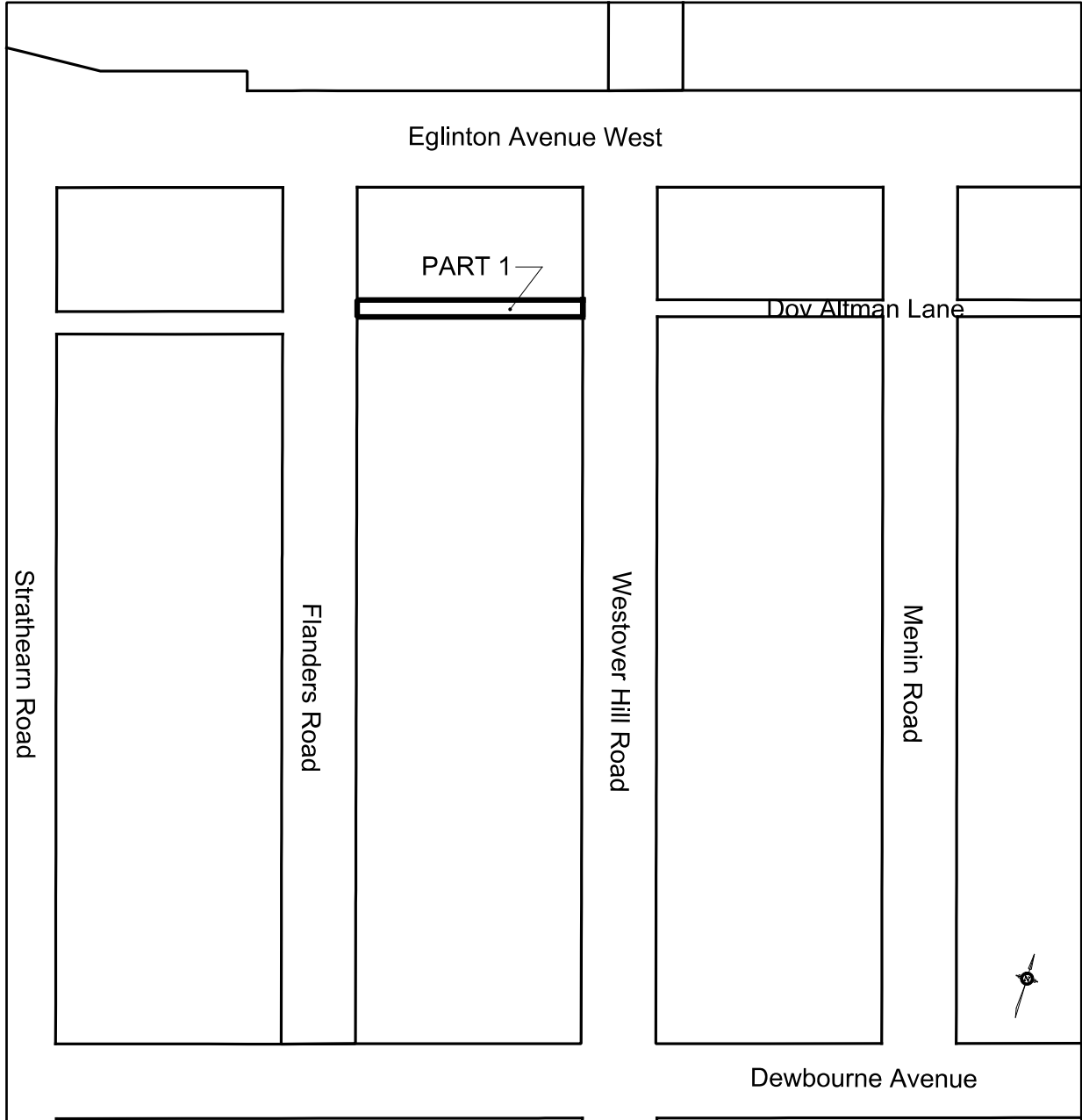
SIGNATURE

Avi Bachar, PMP, P. Eng., Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS 2020-075

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-075 showing the location of an existing public lane located south of Eglinton Avenue West, extending between Flanders Road and Westover Hill Road



NOTE:
THIS SKETCH HAS BEEN
COMPILED FROM OFFICE
RECORDS. MEASUREMENTS
ARE APPROXIMATE

CHECK BY ANA MICHALEK
PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT

WARD 12 - TORONTO-ST. PAUL'S
DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2020

PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET

NAMING OF A PUBLIC LANE SOUTH OF EGLINTON
AVENUE WEST, EXTENDING BETWEEN
FLANDERS ROAD AND WESTOVER HILL ROAD

SKETCH No. PS-2020-075