

Naming of a Private Lane located north of Dundas Street East extending between Sumach Street and River Street

Date: December 3, 2020

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

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

Wards: 13 Toronto Centre Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Ratna Lane" be approved to identify a private lane in Regent Park located north of Dundas Street East, extending between Sumach Street and River Street.

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:

1. Approve the name "Ratna Lane" to identify a private lane located north of Dundas Street East, extending between Sumach Street and River Street.
2. Request the applicant to pay the costs, estimated to be \$1000.00, for the fabrication and installation of the street name signage; and
3. Request the owner and successors of the subject lands to maintain, at their own risk, the street name signage installed under Recommendations 1 of the report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications to the City resulting from the adoption of this report. The estimated cost of \$1000.00 for the street name signage is to be paid by the applicant.

DECISION HISTORY

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

COMMENTS

An application was received on June 25, 2020, from a developer requesting to name a private lane in Regent Park located north of Dundas Street East extending between Sumach Street and River Street as, "Ratna Lane" honouring a local community figure.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

"Ratna Lane"

Ismathara Ratna was a great contributor to the Regent Park community, specifically the large Bengali community within Regent Park. Ms. Ratna acted as a support worker for Bengali newcomers in the Downtown East. She would accompany newcomers to various appointments such as doctors, immigration, and housing appointments, providing language and moral support. Ms. Ratna was well-versed in the child care sector in the city and would often work with families to connect and secure child care services for them. The former Principal of Nelson Mandela Park Public School, Mr. Jason Kandankery, described Ms. Ratna as a very involved parent in school activities. She was a member of the Parent Council, volunteered on school trips, and attended nearly all school functions and activities. She was a standout parent and member of the Nelson Mandela community. Finally, Ms. Ratna was committed volunteer at the Jalalabad Association of Toronto (JAT), a Bangladeshi community organization. The JAT host annual events in the Regent Park neighbourhood, from community picnics to charities. Ms. Ratna was involved in organizing a number of these initiatives.

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"

Ismathara Ratna was tragically struck and killed in a car accident in June of 2019.

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

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, Ward 13 -Toronto Centre, supports this naming.

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

Consent was provided by the named party's brother.

Community Support was achieved via a community-led process to select a name for the private lane. 45 names were submitted by the community. The names were vetted and a curated list of five candidate names were put forth for voting by the Community. The name receiving the most community votes was "Ratna 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 and Part 2 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2020-074.

CONTACT

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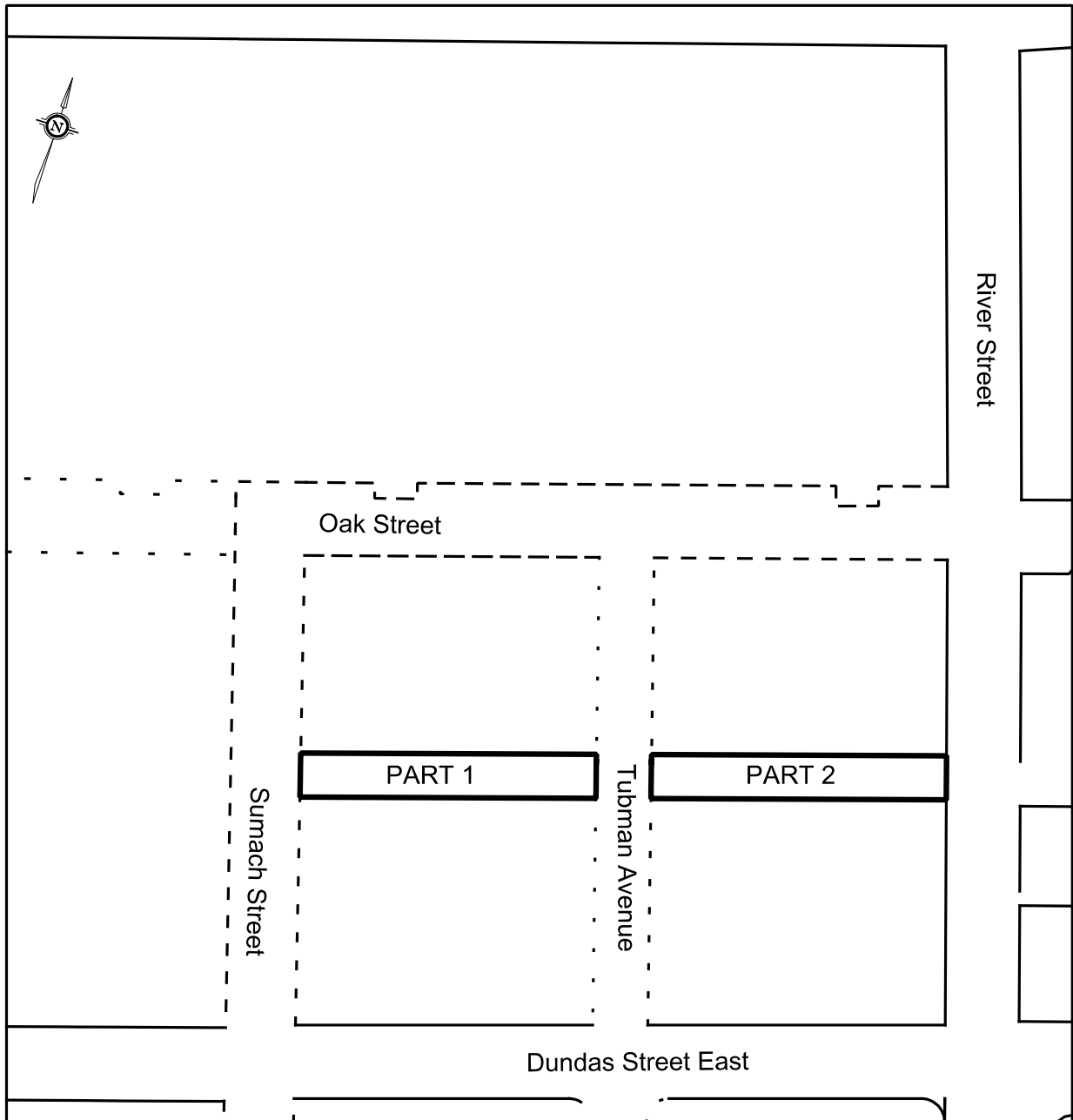
SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-074

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2020-074, showing the location of private lane north of Dundas Street East, extending between Sumach Street and River Street.



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

CHECK BY ANA MICHALEK
PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT

WARD 13 - TORONTO CENTRE
DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2020

PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET
NAMING OF A PRIVATE LANE NORTH OF DUNDAS
STREET EAST, EXTENDING BETWEEN
SUMACH STREET AND RIVER STREET

SKETCH No. PS-2020-074