

Naming of an existing Public Lane in the Block bounded by Harbord Street, Montrose Avenue and Crawford Street

Date: March 17, 2021
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 "Rae Luckock Lane" be approved to identify an existing public lane located in the block bounded by Harbord Street, Montrose Avenue and Crawford 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 "Rae Luckock Lane" for an existing public lane located in the block bounded by Harbord Street, Montrose Avenue and Crawford Street

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to install street name signage is approximately \$250 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 June 23, 2020, from a resident requesting to name the existing public lane located in the block bounded by Harbord Street, Montrose Avenue and Crawford Street as, "Rae Luckock Lane" honouring one of the first women elected to the Ontario Legislature.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

"Rae Luckock Lane"

"Margarette Rae Luckock grew up on the family farm in Arthur, Ontario and was introduced to political activism early in her life.

When in 1932 the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) was formed, Mrs. Luckock joined and became very active, serving on the executive board in her own district and helping promote the party elsewhere in the province.

She taught Sunday School for six years. She ran six times for trustee in Ward 5 of the Toronto School Board, finally defeating the incumbent in 1943. Then in the August 4, 1943, provincial general election she ran successfully in the Bracondale riding in Toronto and subsequently resigned her school board position.

In the 1943 general election in Ontario, the first women were elected to the legislature, Rae Luckock was sworn in as the second.

Rae Luckock served as the CCF's education critic, focusing on funding for university scholarships, free university education and improving rural education. She also promoted equal pay for equal work and paying homemakers for the work they do in the home. She predicted that, after the war, women who had been contributing to the war industry would not want to return to pre-war roles, and argued for them to have the right to continue to work. She was also outspoken on environmental issues such as forestry and air pollution.

She was an active member of the Housewives and Consumers Association (HCA), serving briefly as president in 1943-44 and as an organizer of the HCA's "March of a Million Names" campaign.

When the HCA and other women's groups formed the Congress of Canadian Women, Luckock was chosen as its first president. She subsequently travelled the world on peace conferences.

The family home she lived in for roughly 50 years of her life is at 527 Crawford St. Behind Crawford is a currently unnamed alley, and this is what I and community members at Saint Mary Magdalene are looking to name after Rae."

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

Councillor Mike Layton, Ward 11 University-Rosedale, supports this naming.

Rae Luckock passed away on January 24, 1972.

Consent was provided by Lloyd Luckock, grandson of the named party.

Community support was demonstrated with a petition of signatures from the local community.

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-2021-004.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2021-004

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2021-004 showing the location of an existing public lane located in the block bounded by Harbord Street, Montrose Avenue and Crawford Street

