

## **Naming of a Proposed Private Street for a Development at 5799 Yonge Street**

**Date:** January 26, 2023

**To:** North York Community Council

**From:** Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering & Construction Services

**Wards:** Ward 18 – Willowdale

### **SUMMARY**

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This report recommends that the name "Golden Lion Heights" be approved to identify a proposed private street located at 5799 Yonge 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**

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Engineering & Construction Services recommends that North York Community Council:

1. Approve the name "Golden Lion Heights" for a proposed private street located at 5799 Yonge Street;
2. Request the applicant to pay the costs, estimated to be \$500.00, 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 expense, the street name signage installed under Recommendation 1 of this report.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial implications to the City resulting from the adoption of this report. The estimated cost of \$500.00 for the street name signage is to be paid by the applicant.

## DECISION HISTORY

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

## COMMENTS

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A request was received on June 22, 2022, from a developer to name the proposed private street in connection with their development at 5799 Yonge Street to facilitate municipal addressing at the site.

The following background and rationale provided by the applicant:

### **"Golden Lion Heights"**

*"The proposed name "Golden Lion (suffix)" is inspired by and to honour the former Yonge Street landmark Golden Lion. As noted on North York Historical Society and Toronto Historical Association websites, one of the important landmarks and stagecoach stops on early Yonge Street was at the famous Golden Lion Inn or Hotel. Thomas Shephard purchased the site at the southwest corner of what is now the intersection of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue in 1824 and built an inn in the following year, calling it the Golden Lion. The sign of the inn/hotel, the Golden Lion was considered a Yonge Street landmark for over 100 years, and was well known to travellers in the 19th century as a life-size lion carved out of a pine stump stood over the main doorway of the Golden Lion Inn. This was the work of Paul Sheppard, who twenty years later after the first one had been stolen, carved another from oak using plaster to fashion a mane. Not only did the Golden Lion act as an oasis or respite from the horrors of travel on Yonge Street at the time, it also assisted in the growth and development of the region as well. The handsome life-size golden lion sculpture is currently on display at North York Central Library and is the emblem of the North York Historical Society. The Golden Lion Inn not only hosted travellers, it also became a destination for entertainment as Thomas Shepard and his sons were lively musicians. A hall was also built above the capacious driving shed."*

*The private street is located at the centre of the Phase 1 of the Newtonbrook redevelopment, which is at the heart of the Newtonbrook neighbourhood of North York. Aoyuan believes that naming the private street "Golden Lion (suffix)" would be a great way in honoring and embracing the Golden Lion's heritage and historical significance in North York. Once named, "Golden Lion", now also in the form of a street, will continue to witness the growth and development in the North York area.*

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

Councillor Lily Cheng, Ward 18 Willowdale, supports this naming. Community Councils have delegated authority to decide street naming matters which comply with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy.

The private street is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2023-001

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2023-001

Showing the location of a proposed private street located east of Yonge Street and south of Cummer Avenue.

