

## **Renaming Eighth Street Park in Memory of Jordon Carter**

**Date:** July 3, 2025

**To:** Etobicoke York Community Council

**From:** General Manager, Parks and Recreation

**Wards:** Etobicoke Lakeshore - 3

### **SUMMARY**

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At the July 2022 City Council meeting, City Council adopted the Commemorative Framework to provide additional guidance to support members of the public, Elected Officials, and City staff when naming and renaming streets and City properties in a commemorative manner, and when considering proposals to develop new and review existing commemorative monuments.

Parks and Recreation, along with Economic Development and Culture Division, worked in collaboration with Strategic Partnerships and the local Councillor to consult with the family of Jordon Carter. Eighth Street Park has been identified, located at 160 Eighth Street, as the proposed park location to be renamed *Jordon Carter Memorial Park* in recognition of his life and lasting impact.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Interim General Manager, Parks and Recreation recommends that:

1. The Etobicoke Community Council adopt the renaming of the park, located at 160 Eighth Street, to "Jordon Carter Memorial Park".

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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Funding for the costs associated with the production and installation of the new park sign will be accommodated within the 2025 Operating Budget for Parks and Recreation.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial implications as identified in the Financial Impact section.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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City Council on July 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2022, adopted the following:

1. City Council adopt the City of Toronto Commemorative Framework, consisting of:
  - a. the Guiding Principles for Commemoration in Attachment 1 to the report (June 27, 2022) from the City Manager, as amended by Part 2 below:
  - b. the revised City of Toronto Street Naming Policy in Attachment 2 to the report (June 27, 2022) from the City Manager;
  - c. the revised City of Toronto Property Naming Policy in Attachment 3 to the report (June 27, 2022) from the City Manager; and
  - d. the revised City of Toronto Public Art and Monument Donations Policy in Attachment 4 to the report (June 27, 2022) from the City Manager.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.EX34.6>

## **COMMENTS**

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The application to rename the Eighth Street Skatepark to Jordon Carter Memorial Park provides substantive evidence of Jordon Carter's meaningful contributions to Toronto's skateboarding community and the neighbourhoods in which he lived, including South Etobicoke, The Beaches, and East York. Mr. Carter tragically lost his life to gun violence in 2022 at the age of 15.

The applicant reports that Mr. Carter was a well-known and respected member of Toronto's skateboarding community. From an early age, Mr. Carter demonstrated a strong passion for skateboarding and was frequently seen at local skateparks, where he not only honed his own skills but also encouraged others—particularly his peers—to participate in the sport.

The applicant has submitted a naming proposal with strong community support. The application included six support letters from community organizations and people who knew Jordon Carter. Four of the support letters come from organizations dedicated to supporting youth in healthy activities, demonstrating Mr. Carter's connection to the community. A Change.org petition was started days after Mr. Carter's death that garnered over 9,000 online signatures. The majority of signatures are from Toronto, however there is support from across Canada and around the world. The comments left on the petition described his presence as supportive, with many young people recalling the role Mr. Carter played in helping build their skills, confidence, and self-esteem through skateboarding.

In terms of cultural relevance, the name honours a Toronto youth who demonstrated peer-mentorship skills and an unyielding enthusiasm for the sport of skateboarding. Jordon Carter had a particular affinity for and spent considerable time at the Eighth

Street Skatepark in Etobicoke, where he enjoyed skateboarding and supported others, fostering a strong sense of community among park users. The impact of Mr. Carter's contributions is reflected in the memorials established in his honour at the park, including a commemorative bench. As summarized in the application and confirmed by City staff research, Jordon Carter is meaningfully connected to the social history of the skateboarding community in Eighth Street Skatepark and across Toronto.

## **Recommended Park**

### *Eighth Street Park (160 Eighth Street)*

Eighth Street Park is an existing small park on the corner of Eighth Street and Birmingham Street in Etobicoke Lakeshore. The park's primary feature is a skateboard park.

## **City of Toronto Property Naming Policy**

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

Parks and Recreation consulted with Strategic Partnerships and Economic Development and Culture to ensure the naming met the criteria of the City of Toronto Property Naming Policy and was in alignment with the Guiding Principles for Commemoration. Considering that City staff advised that the naming meets all the criteria for the City of Toronto Property Naming Policy, staff recommend that the Council rename Eighth Street Park to "Jordon Carter Memorial Park".

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

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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A/ General Manager,  
Parks and Recreation