

Naming Recommendation for a parcel of land within Lawrence Park Ravine, to "Jaye Robinson Park"

Date: April 1, 2025

To: North York Community Council

From: General Manager, Parks and Recreation

Wards: Don Valley West - 15

SUMMARY

On June 26, 2024, City Council requested through item MM19.6 that the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and the General Manager, Transportation, in consultation with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture review opportunities to name or rename an existing or planned location, such as a park, street, trail or other landmark in honour of the late Councillor Jaye Robinson.

Parks and Recreation worked with Strategic Partnerships and consulted with the local Councillor to identify a parcel of land within Lawrence Park Ravine as an appropriate location to commemorate the life, long-standing public service, activism and lasting impact of the late Councillor Jaye Robinson.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Parks and Recreation recommends that:

1. North York Community Council receive the report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for the costs associated with the production and installation of the new park sign will be accommodated within the 2025 Approved 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

At its meeting on June 26, 2024, City Council adopted Motion MM19.6 - Honouring the Late Councillor Jaye Robinson by Naming a Landmark or Site in Don Valley West. The motion directed "General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and the General Manager, Transportation, in consultation with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to review opportunities to name or rename an existing or planned location, such as a park, street, trail or other landmark in honour of the late Councillor Jaye Robinson and report back to North York Community Council with options by the end of 2024."

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.MM19.6>

COMMENTS

Jaye Robinson served as a Toronto City Councillor for the Don Valley West community for over 14 years, leaving a lasting mark on her community and the city. During her time in office, she championed reforms in planning, road safety, public transit improvements, environmental initiatives, and fiscal responsibility. She played a crucial role in expanding Toronto's tree canopy, revitalizing parks, and implementing sustainable strategies, including reducing single-use plastics and textile waste. As Chair of Public Works and Infrastructure, she introduced the City's Vision Zero Road Safety Plan and Long-Term Waste Management Strategy, while her leadership as Chair of the Toronto Transit Commission secured historic investments in public transit, including expanding the TTC's electric bus fleet. Jaye's legacy is one of unwavering commitment, creativity, and community spirit, and she will be deeply missed.

Recommended Park

Following an interdivisional review with relevant divisions, the park located within Lawrence Park Ravine was identified as the preferred option for commemorating the late Councillor Jaye Robinson. Lawrence Park Ravine is located at the intersection of Yonge St and Lawrence Avenue East, nestled within the ravine is a 2.5-hectare park containing a playground, a shade structure, outdoor fitness equipment and several picnic tables and benches. This park has benefitted from the care, passion and involvement of the late Councillor Jaye Robinson. Jaye Robinson's family also confirmed this location as the preferred location to commemorate Jaye Robinson.

City of Toronto Property Naming Policy

City staff consulted with the local Councillor to name this parcel of land within Lawrence Park Ravine in honour of the late Councillor Jaye Robinson.

Parks and Recreation initiated the process for identifying an appropriate park for commemoration and consulted with Strategic Partnerships. As per Section 3.11 of the

Property Naming Policy, this naming proposal will need to be submitted to City Council for approval.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Sandra Rodriguez on behalf of Howie Dayton
General Manager, Parks and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map of Proposed location of "Jaye Robinson Park"

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The area outlined is the proposed "Jaye Robinson Park".

