## RACHEL CHERNOS LIN



City Councillor Ward 15 - Don Valley West

100 Queen Street West, Suite A12 Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

North York Community Council North York Civic Centre 5100 Yonge Street North York, ON M2N 5V7 Councillor\_ChernosLin@toronto.ca 416-395-6408

April 1, 2025

## RE: Naming recommendation for a parcel of land within Lawrence Park Ravine to Jaye Robinson Park

Dear Chair and Colleagues,

For almost 14 years, City Councillor Jaye Robinson represented Don Valley West at City Hall, where she left a lasting mark on her community and the city. During her time in office, she championed planning reform, road safety, investment in public transit, and fiscal responsibility. Jaye played a leading role in expanding and protecting Toronto's tree canopy, revitalizing parks, and advancing sustainability initiatives, including reducing single-use plastics and textile waste.

As Chair of Public Works and Infrastructure, Jaye introduced the City's first Vision Zero Road Safety Plan and Long-Term Waste Management Strategy. From 2018-2022, she served as Chair of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), stewarding the organization through the challenging years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under her leadership, the TTC secured historic investments in public transit, fast-tracked critical infrastructure projects, and expanded its electric bus fleet, in keeping with her commitment to environmentalism.

Prior to her election, Jaye was a dedicated public servant responsible for creating and producing Toronto's most iconic special events, including Nuit Blanche and the Summerlicious and Winterlicious programs. Her innovative Moose in the City initiative garnered international attention and raised funds for charity, while large-scale events such as the Celebrate Toronto Street Festival and the Millennium Lights Celebration bolstered the economy and united our city. A leader in the festivals and events industry, she was inducted into the Festival and Events Ontario Hall of Fame in 2000 and helped develop a national certificate program for event professionals.

A champion for the arts and economic development, she served on the Board of Directors for the Art Gallery of Ontario, Canadian Film Centre, and Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Most recently, she spearheaded Toronto's preparations for the 2026 FIFA World Cup and led efforts to bring a professional women's soccer team to the city. Jaye's legacy is one of unwavering leadership, creativity, and community spirit, and she is deeply missed by all who knew her at City Hall and beyond.

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After consulting with the family, naming a new park is within Lawrence Park Ravine is a fitting tribute to recognize Councillor Jaye Robinson's long legacy of public service. As a committed supporter of Toronto's green spaces, Jaye advanced ambitious projects to build new parks and improve existing parks across Ward 15. She lived in the area and her family will have the opportunity to continue to enjoy this beautiful park for many years to come.

Jaye was beloved in Don Valley West and many residents and community groups have expressed support for naming a park in her honour. As directed by City Council, City staff reviewed potential sites and this park was identified as the preferred option in the staff report.

This motion is urgent because the name needs to be approved in order for the sign to be manufactured and installed before the summer 2025 season.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. City Council approve the naming of a new park within Lawrence Park Ravine as Jaye Robinson Park.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,

Rachel Chernos Lin

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