



The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

To: Members of the Parks, Recreation and Events Committee

Prepared by: Jonathan Osborne, Director of Public Works
and Gudrin Beggs, Director of Planning and Development

Department: Public Works

Date of Report: June 21, 2024

Report Number: PW-24-2024

Subject: New Park Name at Laurier and Meo

Recommendation

That the report of the Director of Public Works and Director of Planning and Development dated June 21, 2024 (Report number PW-24-2024) regarding the naming of the newly constructed park on Meo Blvd south of Laurier Parkway be received;

And that Council support Administrations letter back to the Sorge family to deny the requested park name of "Gino Sorge Park";

And that Council assign a name to the Park based on the recommended options contained within the report.

Report

This report is in response to a request received from the Sorge Family to name the new park located at Laurier and Meo "Gino Sorge Park". The park is within the Laurier Horizons subdivision, which was formerly known as the Harmony Lakes subdivision, which was previously an agricultural property owned by the Sorge family.

This request was supported by the current owner/developer of the property.

The request stated that the dedication of the Laurier Parkway right-of-way fits into the criteria of the Parks Naming Policy, in that it was a significant contribution by an individual in terms of public life and well-being of the Town of LaSalle. The correspondence contains some background information and some reasons as to their position. We agree that the dedication of the right-of-way (ROW) and the construction of Laurier were essential in the ongoing development of the Howard Bouffard area. However, with the dedication of the ROW, the agreements contained items which the Town provided to the Owners in exchange for the ROW.

There were two different agreements that are associated with this section of Laurier Parkway, that occurred at different points in time, and for different reasons:

1. In 1995, there was an agreement between the owners and the Town in which the owners dedicated a 20m wide parcel (known as Gilroy Ave) to the Town, for the purpose of the installation of a 500mm feeder watermain. As a result, the owners obtained access to the trunk watermain, and would not be responsible for the per-foot frontage costs as part of a residential development.
2. In 2010, there was an agreement between the Owners and the Town in which the Gilroy ROW was widened by 13m, and realigned at Huron Church. The purpose for this additional dedication was for the construction of Laurier Parkway. In exchange for the property, the agreement stated that the Town would:
 - a) Construct Laurier Parkway within the ROW at the Town's cost. This relieved the owner from constructing their portion of the arterial road as part of a future development application. It also provided the property with access and frontage to a built arterial road that now forms part of the Town's mixed-use corridor.

This approach was consistently applied along entire length of Laurier Parkway given the multiple property owners.

- b) Provide access culverts to both north and south pieces of property for farming purposes.

In response to the request from the Sorge Family, the Town provided a letter indicating that the dedication of the ROW unfortunately did not fall within the criteria established within the policy. The agreements contain the items that were provided for both parties, and there is no mention of park naming.

Administration maintains the position that the request does not fit the criteria of the policy and therefore does not recommend the proposed name.

New Park Name

As an alternative, the policy sets out other options for assigning a name to a park. Below is the criteria, and information to consider for each:

The name of the street on which the park or recreation facility is located.

- Administration does not feel that this criteria applies, as the park is located on Meo Drive, and a Meo Park already exists in the Seven Lakes development.

The name of the community area that the park or recreation facility will serve.

- The development name is referred to as "Laurier Horizons". This is a direct link to a company name, and therefore does not satisfy the criteria within the policy.

A historically significant name in terms of famous pioneers, settlements, establishments of incidents applied to the area in which the park facility is located.

- Administration does not believe this item applies in this situation.

Topographical or unique characteristics of the site.

- Administration does not believe this item applies in this situation.

In addition to the criteria in the Parks Naming Policy, Administration would also propose for Council consideration the option of naming the park based upon the list of retired Councillor members that have been identified in the Street Naming Policy. Additionally, Administration has included a list of names of Council members that have retired since the policy was last updated.

List from Street Naming Policy:

Munro (1956 Councillor, S.W.)
 Crown (1956 Councillor, S.W.)
 Fitch (1956 Councillor, S.W.)
 Delisle (1931 Councillor, S.W.)
 Olsen (1943 Mayor, LaSalle)
 Henderson (1947 Mayor, LaSalle)
 Bezaire (1924 Councillor, LaSalle)
 Hewson (1934 Councillor, S.W.)
 Campeau (1932 Councillor, LaSalle)
 Lacombe (1932 Councillor, LaSalle)
 Tapson (1950 Councillor, LaSalle)

Additional retired Councillor members following the Policy update. For Council's benefit, we have indicated where the Town has an existing street name that is or closely matches a Council member name:

Ronald Arkell (Councillor)
 John Tedesco (Councillor)
 Raymond Renaud (Councillor)
 Suzan Hamdon (Councillor)
 Wayne Fortin (Councillor)
 Dennis Pare (Councillor) – Street name, Pare Lane
 Gary Baxter (Mayor) - Street name, Baxter Crescent
 Ken Antaya (Mayor) – Street name, Antaya Street
 Marc Bondy (Mayor) – Street name, Bondy Avenue

Administration is recommending that Council assign a name from the above Council member name lists, or an alternative name suggested by Council.

For Council's information, below are examples of public assets named after retired Council members by way of the Naming Policy through Council decision in recent years:

Vince Marcotte (Mayor) - Park
Mike Raymond (Mayor) – Street name
William Varga (Mayor) – Library name
Joseph Durocher (Councillor) – Street name
Judy Recker (Councillor) – Street name

Consultations

NA

Financial Implications

None

Prepared By:



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Link to Strategic Goals

1. Enhancing organizational excellence - Not Applicable
2. Strengthen the community's engagement with the Town - Not Applicable
3. Grow and diversify the local economy - Not Applicable
4. Build on our high-quality of life - Yes
5. Sustaining strong public services and infrastructure - Yes

Communications

The delegate has been notified of this report and meeting.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	New Park Name at Laurier and Meo.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Letter from Sorge Family.pdf- Letter from Horizons Group.pdf- LaSalle Response - Harmony Lakes Subdivision Park Name.pdf- Naming of Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jun 25, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia