



OTHER REPORT

Report Date: April 2, 2014
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Meeting Date: May 13, 2014

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Civic Asset Naming Committee
SUBJECT: New Street Names - River District (East Fraser Lands)

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the new public street shown as "Road 7" and "Road 16" on the graphic attached as Appendix A, be named as an extension of "North Arm Avenue".
- B. THAT the new public street shown as "Road 12" on the graphic attached as Appendix A, be named as "River District Crossing".
- C. THAT the new public street shown as "Road 13" and "Road 23" on the graphic attached as Appendix A, be named as "Sawmill Crescent".
- D. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the appropriate amendments to the Street Name By-law.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager submits the foregoing recommendations for consideration.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Council uses the Street Name By-Law, No. 4054, to name and regulate public roads in the City of Vancouver. The Civic Asset Naming Committee was established by Council on February 29, 2012, and consists of one representative of the Vancouver Historical

Society, one representative of the Vancouver Public Spaces Network, three members of the public residing in Vancouver, two members of the Multicultural Advisory Committee and two members of the Urban Aboriginal Peoples Advisory Committee. The Committee approves names to be added to the Names Reserve List based on input from staff regarding compliance with naming policies and guidelines and also recommends names to Council for new streets and roads, development areas, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, and other City-owned assets and facilities (excluding Parks and Library assets).

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks Council approval in naming two new public streets within the River District area (also known as East Fraser Lands) as "River District Crossing" and "Sawmill Crescent". It also seeks approval in naming a new street extension as "North Arm Avenue".

REPORT

Background/Context

In September 2010, the City's former Street Naming Committee received a request from the developer, Park Lane Homes, outlining the need to name 23 public and private streets in its River District development south of Marine Drive. In November 2010, the same committee approved the naming of "Pierview Crescent" and "Riverwalk Avenue" in the River District.

Following the establishment of the Civic Asset Naming Committee in 2012, the newly appointed Committee considered names for several new streets in the development and, at its meeting on September 10, 2013, approved the name "North Arm Avenue" for a road running parallel to the Fraser River. This name was approved by Council at its Regular meeting on October 8, 2013.

At its meetings on September 10 and November 25, 2013, the Committee approved names for an extension of North Arm Avenue as well as two additional streets which have now been established by subdivision. As with the previous names, Park Lane was invited to propose names to the Committee and attended both Committee meetings to make presentations and discuss the proposals.

The Civic Asset Naming Committee views the River District development as a significant heritage landscape. It provides an opportunity to select street names that reflect the site's rich historical, cultural, geographical and natural features. The names put forward by the Committee have been chosen after careful thought, research and consideration of the River District development as a whole. These names can be used as reference points for future street names that will be required as the River District development grows.

A significant portion of the public street shown as "Road 7" was named "North Arm Avenue" by Council on October 8, 2013, to enhance the sense of place and link the street name to the geography of the site. This road now extends further east along the north arm of the Fraser River as an extension of Road 7 and as the new public street Road 16. As Road 7 and 16 are continuations of the existing street, it is recommended that they be named "North Arm Avenue".

The new public street shown as "Road 12" is the primary retail and pedestrian street in the development and is seen as the heart of the community. "River District Crossing" is recommended as the name of this street to reflect the project as a whole and as a strong, prominent name representative of the entire development and a fitting reference point for the community's main street. The street type "Crossing" is somewhat outside the City's formal naming guidelines, but the Committee feels it is appropriate for this street. Not only does the street cross a railway line, the term conveys a sense of distinctiveness enhancing the prominence of the street. There is a precedent: Alder Crossing near Granville Island also crosses a railway.

The new public street shown as "Road 13" and "Road 23" is also in the heart of the River District and runs through the development's commercial mixed-use core. "Sawmill Crescent" is being recommended as the name of this street to reflect 100 years of history and economic activity in the area. Sawmills have been on the site since the beginning of the 20th century and the Canadian White Pine Mill was one of the largest sawmills in Canada for 75 years, employing thousands of people over three generations. The name commemorates sawmills in general, both along the river and in BC, many of which are disappearing. The name also aligns with Park Lane's goals, in that it is an authentic name that is also comprehensible and clear, and one which suits the planned architecture of the area, which will be characterized by heavy timber, steel and corrugated metal.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk

Financial

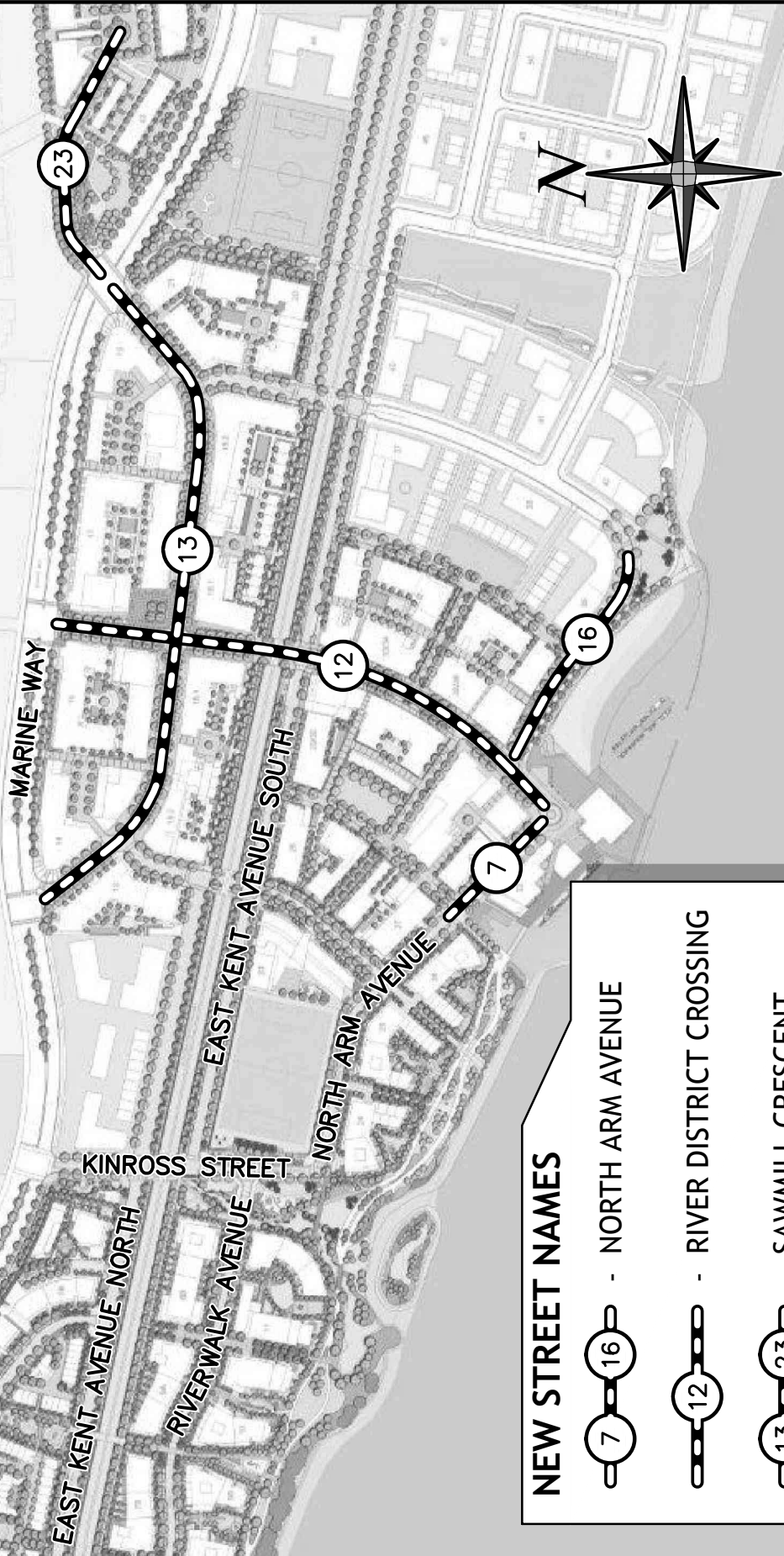
There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

The Civic Asset Naming Committee recommends Council approve the names of "North Arm Avenue" for "Road 7" and "Road 16", "River District Crossing" for "Road 12", and "Sawmill Crescent" for "Road 13" and "Road 23", all as shown on the attached graphic.

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RIVER DISTRICT (EAST FRASER LANDS)



NEW STREET NAMES

7 16 - NORTH ARM AVENUE

12 23 - RIVER DISTRICT CROSSING

13 23 - SAWMILL CRESCENT