



OTHER REPORT

Report Date: November 22, 2017
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: December 12, 2017

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Civic Asset Naming Committee
SUBJECT: New Street Adjacent to Graveley Street

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the new street adjacent to 3580 Graveley Street, shown on the graphic attached as Appendix A, be named as "Valiant Street".
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the appropriate amendment to the Street Name By-law.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends a name for the new street adjacent to 3580 Graveley Street.

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 re-established on December 16, 2014. 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).

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager submits the foregoing for Council's consideration.

REPORT

Background/Context

The street being named in this report is located very near the current VPD offices at 3585 Graveley St. and Valiant was the first Vancouver Police dog killed in the line of duty.

Valiant died on December 18, 1967 after being shot in an apartment building at 1460 Nelson Street during the apprehension of a prison escapee. The wanted man, who had been serving a life sentence for murder, was armed and determined not to be taken alive. When officers surrounding the building called for the man to surrender and kicked in the door, the escapee fired two shots, narrowly missing the officers. Valiant was released and was shot as he pounced on the man.

Valiant's master, Constable Mike Wellman, called him to heel, the dog returned, and the wanted man, afraid the dog would return, gave up meekly when again ordered to surrender. Valiant stood guard while the prisoner was taken to a police car, and at that point, Wellman noticed the dog was bleeding. Valiant was rushed to surgery, but died of his wounds following a three-hour operation.

Staff have confirmed with E-Comm through VFRS that "Valiant Street" presents no public safety risks and is not duplicated in the Lower Mainland. Every name considered by the Civic Asset Naming Committee is vetted through VFRS to ensure the name does not present a risk to public safety or the safety of emergency responders. Emergency dispatchers, receiving a majority of their calls from cell phones, most often do not have a caller's location displayed to them. They must then rely on a drop-down list of addresses based on the information relayed by the caller. As callers are often in distress, understanding them can be very difficult. For this reason VFRS will not support names, particularly for streets, that present any risk of the location being misunderstood in an emergency situation.

Public/Civic Agency Input (if applicable)

On November 20, 2017, the Civic Asset Naming Committee approved the following motion:

THAT "Valiant Street" be added to the reserve list for the new street adjacent to 3580 Graveley Street.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

The Civic Asset Naming Committee recommends Council approve the name "Valiant Street" for the new street adjacent to 3580 Graveley Street.

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PLAN TO ACCOMPANY A BY-LAW TO AMEND STREET NAME BY-LAW No. 4054.

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE

