



## OTHER REPORT

Report Date: April 23, 2018  
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Meeting Date: June 5, 2018

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: Civic Asset Naming Committee  
SUBJECT: Naming of West End Lanes

### RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the existing lane located between Comox Street and Pendrell Street which runs from Thurlow Street to Cardero Street, and from Bidwell Street to Stanley Park, as shown on the graphic attached as Appendix A, be named as "Jepson-Young Lane".
- B. THAT the existing lane located between Harwood Street and Beach Avenue/Pacific Street which runs from Burrard Street to Cardero Street, as shown on the graphic attached as Appendix B, be named as "Jung Lane".
- C. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment the appropriate amendments to the Street Name By-law.

### CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager submits the foregoing for consideration.

### COUNCIL POLICY

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).

## PURPOSE

This report seeks Council approval to name two lanes in the West End.

## BACKGROUND

The “Laneways 2.0” strategy in the West End Community Plan takes advantage of the 33-foot wide laneways typical of the West End to provide opportunity to develop ground-oriented infill housing and to enhance the laneways as more walkable public spaces. The Civic Asset Naming Committee saw the strategy as an opportunity to recognize a number of individuals with strong connections to the West End.

To this end, the Committee approved motions in 2014 and 2015 for some names already on the Civic Asset Name Reserve List to be assigned to particular West End lanes. The Committee also added a number of names to the Reserve List, each assigned to a particular lane, with the intention of forwarding these names to Council for approval as development projects appeared on the lanes. Henshaw Lane and Maxine Lane were the first names approved as a result of this process. Eihu Lane, Rosemary Brown Lane, Stovold Lane, ted northe lane, See-em-ia Lane, and Pantages Lane were the most recent names approved, as a response to the City’s 150+ Naming Project in 2017.

As part of this most recent request for naming, Council referred back to the Committee two proposed names:

- Jepson-Young Lane—for further discussion and consultation with the parents of Dr. Peter Jepson-Young
- Jung Lane—to ensure the commemoration is clearly for Vivian Jung

The Committee re-evaluated the two names at a Special Meeting on April 10, 2018.

Regarding Jepson-Young Lane, staff confirmed through Vancouver Fire Rescue Services that the use of “Dr. Peter” for the lane name cannot be supported from an emergency response perspective. Every name considered by the 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. “Dr. Peter Lane” provides such a risk for reasons of duplication (there is a Peter Street in Burnaby and a Peters Road in Richmond) and clarity (“Dr.” could be typed by dispatch as either “Dr.” or “Doctor”).

Staff also contacted Dr. Peter’s family through the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation, and Dr. Peter’s mother confirmed the family understood the emergency response reasons for not using

“Dr. Peter” as the lane name. She also expressed the family’s gratitude for honouring Dr. Peter in this manner.

Following the referral back to Committee, some citizens living in the Mole Hill development claimed the lane is already named Mole Hill Lane and should not be renamed. “Mole Hill Lane” is not designated in the Street Name By-law and is therefore not an official street name. Citizens have also suggested the lane be named Mole Hill Lane, or specifically Elizabeth Mole Lane. The latter would not be recommended for emergency response reason (there is an Elizabeth Street in Vancouver and an Elizabeth Way in the District of North Vancouver). The Committee considered both Mole Lane and Mole Hill Lane but concluded that Jepson-Young Lane better resonated with the full length of the lane and the West End in general.

Regarding Jung Lane, staff had previously determined that Vivian Jung’s full name could not be used as the lane name for reasons of duplication (Vivian Drive and Vivian Street exist in Vancouver). To clearly identify the individual being commemorated, at its April 10, 2018 Special Meeting, the Committee considered a staff proposal to add explanatory subtext to the lane blade signs, not only for Jung Lane, but for all the lanes in the West End, that would provide some historical context for each name.

Each blade sign will reflect the following format, which does not substantially change the size or shape, and therefore the cost, of the sign:



The Committee endorsed the design and supported adding blade sign subtexts to the West End Lane signs as follows:

- Rosemary Brown Lane  
First Black Woman Elected in Canada
- Eihu Lane  
Kanaka Ranch Hawaiian Settler

- Henshaw Lane  
JULIA HENSHAW | Author, Botanist, Veteran
- ted northe Lane  
Pioneering LGBTQ+ Activist
- Maxine Lane  
MAXINE MACGILVRAY | Chemist, Entrepreneur
- Pantages Lane  
PETER PANTAGES | Polar Bear Club Founder
- See-em-ia Lane  
MARY SEE-EM-IA | Skwxwú7mesh Matriarch
- Stovold Lane  
KAY STOVOLD | Seniors Advocate
- Jung Lane  
VIVIAN JUNG | Barrier-breaking Teacher
- Jepson-Young Lane  
DR. PETER JEPSON-YOUNG | AIDS Activist, Educator

Engineering Services and Vancouver Fire Rescue Services support the addition of the explanatory subtext. If the sign design proves to be successful, i.e. problem-free, the model may be applicable to future new streets as they are named.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications. Engineering Services has confirmed that the addition of the explanatory subtext does not increase the cost to manufacture and install the street name signs.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Civic Asset Naming Committee recommends Council approve the names of the two lanes in the West End.

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

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE



