

MOTION ON NOTICE

6. City Asset Renaming Policy

MOVER: Councillor Reimer

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. On March 28, 2017, Council unanimously passed a motion entitled “150+ Place Naming Project”
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20170328/documents/motionb2.pdf> ;
2. As part of that motion, Council committed to “Determine the circumstances when, if ever, a street or public asset name can be replaced”;
3. Currently the City of Vancouver is not able to rename a city asset;
4. From time to time the City receives requests from residents concerned about names on city assets that may be particularly offensive in a modern context;
5. Over the past 16 months both the Civic Asset Naming Committee and staff have looked at developing a policy but been unable to bring a recommendation to Council;
6. The City of Toronto has a simple but effective policy for public requests to rename city assets, including streets (section 6 at this link
<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/8b5c-ecs-enginfo-2017-street-naming-policy.pdf>)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the attached policy for renaming city assets and direct staff to amend the City of Vancouver’s naming policy to include the ability for renaming generally in accordance with the attached:

PROPOSED RENAMING POLICY

A proposal to rename a City street, place, or building is to be made using the “Suggest a Name” and at a minimum is to include:

- Rationale for changing the name and significance of the proposed name;
- Relevance of the proposed name to the asset;
- Documented support, including but not limited to petitions and support letters, from at least 75 percent of property owners that abut the street, place or building;
- A map or an illustration, including major intersections of a street to be renamed; and

- Proposed names that portray indigenous significance or are after an indigenous individual, organization or event will require consultation with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh band councils, or their designates, and adherence to appropriate indigenous practices or protocols.

Proposed renaming of assets will be considered using the same process as is used for names for new and unnamed assets.

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