

# THE ADDITION OF ANNE MARIE D'AMICO SQUARE TO SANTA CHIARA PARKETTE WARD 6

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted" Matt. 5: 4

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
July 9, 2019	August 22, 2019	Click here to enter a date.

J. Wujek, Superintendent, Student Achievement and Well Being, Area 5 M. Loberto, Superintendent of Planning and Development

#### **RECOMMENDATION REPORT**

#### Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

#### Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Rory McGuckin Director of Education

D. Koenig Associate Director of Academic Affairs

L. Noronha Associate Director of Facilities, Business and Community Development, and Chief Financial Officer

### A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends that the Board approve the renaming of the public square fronting to Santa Chiara Parkette to Anne Marie D'Amico Square. This property is owned by the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), and located next to both St. Clare Catholic Church (1118 St. Clair Avenue West) and St. Clare Catholic Elementary School (124 Northcliffe Boulevard). The TCDSB and City of Toronto entered into a License Agreement in 2011 with respect to the Parkette, which provided the TCDSB naming rights in consultation with the City of Toronto.

Anne Marie D'Amico died tragically on April 23, 2018. She was a long-time member of St. Clare Parish, and a graduate of St. Clare Catholic School.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 12 hours

## **B. BACKGROUND**

1. Santa Chiara Parkette is located on TCDSB-owned lands at the northwest corner of St. Clair Avenue West and Northcliffe Boulevard (*Appendix 'B'*). The parkette, with a municipal address of 1114 St. Clair Avenue West, is adjacent to both St. Clare Catholic Church and St. Clare Catholic Elementary School.

Currently, there is signage on both street frontages identifying the space as Santa Chiara Parkette.

2. In 2011, the Board and the City of Toronto entered into a License Agreement with respect to the construction, operation, and maintenance of the public parkette. As part of the agreement, the TCDB has exclusive use of the fenced in portion of the parkette from 8am to 6pm.

Furthermore, the TCDSB may name the parkette in consultation with the City's Parks, Forestry, and Recreation department.

3. The fenced in portion of the parkette is used by the school as an extension of the school play space, and as occasionally as an area for outdoor education.

4. On January 30, 2019, Toronto City Council adopted a Members Motion from Councillor Bailao directing the General Manager of Parks, Forestry, and Recreation to investigate the feasibility of renaming the public square fronting Santa Chiara Parkette to "Anne Marie D'Amico Square" (*Appendix 'A'*). Given that the property is owned by the TCDSB, and the naming rights provision in the agreement, City staff approached the TCDSB to initiate discussions on the matter.

### C. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

- 1. Following the adoption of the motion, the City proposal changed to involve renaming the entire Santa Chiara Parkette in memory of Anne Marie D'Amico, which was supported by both the Regal Heights Village Business Improvement Area and the Regal Heights Residents Association.
- 2. As part of the discussion related to this proposal, Board staff have communicated and met with several key stakeholders:
  - D'Amico family representatives
  - Councillor Bailao and City of Toronto staff
  - CSPC of St. Clare Catholic School
  - Fr. Francesco Marrone and St. Clare Parish Council
  - Local TCDSB Trustee
- 3. Based on the feedback received, there is a strong sense of history to the name "Santa Chiara Parkette" or "Piazza Santa Chiara". The St. Clare CSPC and communication from St. Clare's Parish expressed the strong ties to the name Santa Chiara and its history to the neighbourhood.
- 4. As such, staff are of the opinion that renaming the property outside of the fence line to honour the memory of Anne Marie D'Amico retains the history of Santa Chiara Parkette, embraces the wishes of the D'Amico family, and the legacy of Anne Marie. The family has indicated their support of this proposal, which is consistent with the motion approved by City Council.
- 5. In July 2019, Board staff met with Councillor Bailao, Nick D'Amico (brother of Anne Marie), and City staff to discuss next steps regarding the renaming a portion of the parkette defined as the area outside of the fence-line. In order

to proceed, the City requires a communication from the Board adopting the proposed name change. The City is in the process of producing draft signage for Board review, and discussing any potential issues related to the naming of two parks/municipal address with Parks and Emergency services staff.

6. It is anticipated that later in 2019, there will be a ceremony to rename the portion of the parkette in Anne Marie's honour to coincide with an upcoming Anne Marie D'Amico Foundation event.

### **D.** STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve the renaming of the portion of Santa Chiara Parkette outside of the fence-line and fronting St. Clair Avenue West to Anne Marie D'Amico Square, and inform the City of Toronto of this decision.