



## Staff Report for Council Meeting

Date of Meeting: June 8, 2022

Report Number: SRPI.22.053

Department: Planning and Infrastructure

Division: Policy Planning

**Subject: SRPI.22.053 – Naming of Parks (William Duncan Park)**

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### Purpose:

To propose a name for a new park within the City's park and natural heritage system.

### Recommendation(s):

- a) That the proposed name "William Duncan Park" be approved in principle for the site described in staff report SRPI.22.053.
- b) That the proposed name "William Duncan Park" be advertised on the City's website with request for public comments in accordance with the City's *Policy for Naming and Renaming Parks, Open Space and Recreational Facilities*; and
- c) That staff report back to Council regarding public comments on the proposed "William Duncan Park" name and with a final recommendation for naming the site.

### Contact Person:

Anant Patel, Planner II - Parks, phone number 905-771-2492, and/or

Michelle Dobbie, Manager Parks and Natural Heritage Planning, phone number 905-771-2467

### Report Approval:

**Submitted by:** Kelvin Kwan, Commissioner of Planning and Infrastructure

**Approved by:** Darlene Joslin, Interim City Manager

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), City Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and City Manager. Details of the reports approval are attached.

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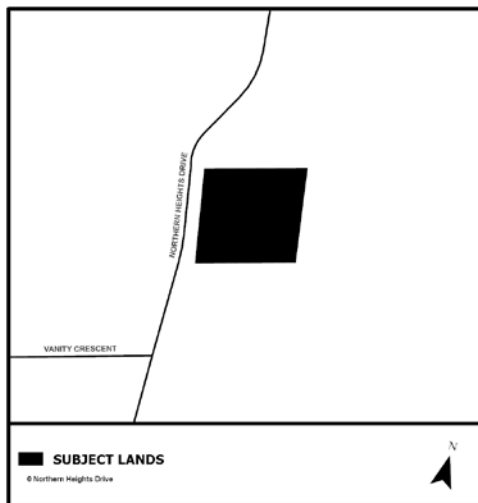
### Background:

The report proposes a park name that is consistent with the City's Policy for Naming and Renaming Parks, Open Space and Recreation Facilities (see Appendix A), for a site within the City's Park and Natural Heritage system as follows:

#### **William Duncan Park (Park Class: Local Park)**

Location: Ward 6, Northern Heights Drive, see Map 1

Map 1. Location of William Duncan Park



William Duncan owned and resided on the larger land holdings where the City's park is now located in the early 1800s. Lot 40-1 Markham Township (now part of Richmond Hill) was at the time a 200 acre parcel bordering on today's Yonge Street on the west, 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the north, Bayview Avenue to the east and south about 457 metres (500 yards) to current Grey Alder Avenue. William Duncan was born on January 1, 1801 in Ireland to Jane Elliot and William Duncan and immigrated to Canada in 1827. The Duncan house constructed in 1828 was originally located on Yonge Street, south of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Mr. Duncan married Sarah Mulholland in 1831, and together they had 13 children. Mr. Duncan passed away on July 18, 1886. In 1958, the Duncan house was moved west on the same property to a lot at 231 Duncan Road. In 1997, the house was relocated to the City of Markham to save it from demolition.

The City's Policy for Naming and Renaming Parks, Open Space and Recreation Facilities indicates that proposed names be advertised with a request for public comments. Staff will advertise on the City of Richmond Hill's website, seeking input from the public. In accordance with the policy, staff will report back to Council regarding any input on the proposed name received during the 30-day commenting period and make a recommendation regarding final approval of the name.

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### **Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:**

There are no financial, staffing or other implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

### **Relationship to Council’s Strategic Priorities 2020-2022:**

Promoting the City’s cultural and natural heritage through park, open space and recreation facility names fosters a sense of identity and place that contributes to a more vibrant Richmond Hill. Additionally, the naming process provides an opportunity for residents to become involved with their community.

### **Climate Change Considerations:**

Climate change considerations are not applicable to this staff report.

### **Conclusion:**

The proposed name is consistent with the guidelines for naming set out in the City’s Policy for Naming and Renaming Parks, Open Space and Recreation Facilities. Staff will report back to Council regarding a final recommendation on the proposed name following the required 30-day public notification period.

### **Attachments:**

The following attached documents may include scanned images of appendixes, maps and photographs. All attachments have been reviewed and made accessible. If you require an alternative format please call the contact person listed in this document.

- Appendix A, Policy for Naming and Renaming Parks, Open Space and Recreation Facilities

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### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRPI.22.053 - Naming of Parks.docx
Attachments:	- Appendix A - SRP1.22.053 - AODA.pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 23, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Patrick Lee - May 17, 2022 - 4:17 PM**

**Kelvin Kwan - May 17, 2022 - 4:19 PM**

**Darlene Joslin - May 23, 2022 - 4:19 PM**