

To: Economic and Development Services Committee

From: Anthony Ambra, P.Eng., Commissioner,
Economic and Development Services Department

Report Number: ED-25-51

Date of Report: April 30, 2025

Date of Meeting: May 5, 2025

Subject: Request to add the name Irv Harrell to the City's Street Name Reserve List

Ward: All Wards

File: 12-12-0033

1.0 Purpose

On March 3, 2025, the Economic and Development Services Committee considered Correspondence ED-25-39 from Elaine Wright, Kathryn Manners and Jane Strong requesting that the City of Oshawa consider naming a street in honour of their father, Irvine “Irv” Harrell, to recognize his contributions to Oshawa as a community member and former councillor. The Economic and Development Services Committee referred the item to staff for a report.

The purpose of this Report is to respond to the March 3, 2025 Economic and Development Services Committee direction for a report on the naming of a street in the City of Oshawa in honour of Irv Harrell.

2.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Economic and Development Services Committee select an appropriate option as set out in Section 4.3 of this Report.

3.0 Input From Other Sources

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this Report:

- Region of Durham Community Growth and Economic Development Department
- Oshawa Fire Services
- Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre (“C.A.C.C.”)

The Region of Durham Community Growth and Economic Development Department reviews street names in consultation with Durham Regional Police Services (“D.R.P.S.”)

and maintains the Region's Street Name Index. This index contains a list of all existing and reserved street names in the Region of Durham.

The Region, Oshawa Fire Services and the C.A.C.C. have no objection to the proposed street name Irv Harrell.

4.0 Analysis

4.1 Street Naming in the City of Oshawa

The Planning Services Branch of the Economic and Development Services Department maintains the City of Oshawa's Street Name Reserve List. This is a list of names that have been approved for use as street names in Oshawa in accordance with the provisions of the City's Street Naming Policy. Any person, including a City staff member or elected official, can make a request for a street name to be added to the City's Street Name Reserve List.

Subsection 2.1 of the Street Naming Policy reads as follows:

"Street names based on the names of individuals/families (other than the names of war dead and war veterans) must relate to the following:

- (a) Local individuals/families who have had a considerable relationship with Oshawa;
- (b) Local individuals/families who have made a significant social, political or cultural contribution to Oshawa;
- (c) Former Mayors and members of City Council; or,
- (d) Names of persons of historical significance which could include significance other than of a local nature."

4.2 Current Street Name Proposal

On March 3, 2025, the Economic and Development Services Committee considered Correspondence ED-25-39 from Elaine Wright, Kathryn Manners and Jane Strong requesting that the City of Oshawa consider naming a street in honour of their father, Irvine "Irv" Harrell, to recognize his contributions to the City of Oshawa. Staff confirmed with the family that it was their preference that their father's familiar name "Irv" be advanced for formal consideration.

Irv Harrell was a former City and Regional Councillor for the City of Oshawa, elected for four (4) terms between 1985 and 2000. In addition to his duties as City and Regional Councillor, he served as the Chairman for the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority for fifteen (15) years and as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Oshawa Power and Utilities Corporation for ten (10) years. Irv Harrell was also known for his love of nature and the environment, and his involvement in conservation, sports and scouting in and around Oshawa.

Considering Irv Harrell's political contribution to Oshawa and his time as a City and Regional councillor, the name "Irv Harrell" satisfies the City's street name criteria.

It is recommended that the Economic and Development Services Committee select an appropriate option from Section 4.3 of this Report regarding the request to name a street in honour of Irv Harrell.

4.3 Options

Two options are available to the Economic and Development Services Committee with respect to the request to add "Irv Harrell" to the list of names approved for use as street names in the City of Oshawa.

4.3.1 Option 1: Approve the name Irv Harrell for use as a Street Name in the City of Oshawa

Under this option, the street name Irv Harrell would be approved for use as a street name in the City of Oshawa and added to the City's Street Name Reserve List for future use in the City.

In the event the Economic and Development Services Committee wishes to recommend to City Council that the name Irv Harrell be added to the City's Street Name Reserve List, the Committee may wish to pass the following motion:

"That the Economic and Development Services Committee recommend to City Council that, pursuant to Report ED-25-51 dated April 30, 2025, the name Irv Harrell be added to the City's Street Name Reserve List."

4.3.2 Option 2: Do not approve the name Irv Harrell for use as a Street Name in the City of Oshawa

Under this option, the street name Irv Harrell would not be approved for use as a street name in the City of Oshawa, would not be added to the City's Street Name Reserve List, and no further action is required.

In the event the Economic and Development Services Committee wishes to recommend to City Council that the name Irv Harrell not be added to the City's Street Name Reserve List, the Committee may wish to pass the following motion:

"That the Economic and Development Services Committee recommend to City Council that Report ED-25-51 dated April 30, 2025, concerning a request to add the name Irv Harrell to the City's Street Name Reserve List be received for information."

5.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation in this Report.

6.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This Report responds to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Priority Area:

“Belong: Inclusive and Healthy Community” with the goal to reduce systemic barriers and deliver engaging, equitable and culturally inclusive programs and services for all participants.



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