

To: Economic and Development Services Committee

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

Report Number: ED-25-52

Date of Report: April 30, 2025

Date of Meeting: May 5, 2025

Subject: Request to add the name George Weisz 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-25-40 from Rich Weisz requesting that the City of Oshawa consider naming a street in honour of his father, George Weisz, to recognize his contributions to Oshawa. 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 George Weisz.

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 George Weisz.

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-25-40 from Rich Weisz requesting that the City of Oshawa consider naming a street in honour of his father, George Weisz, to recognize his contributions to the City of Oshawa.

In addition to a 30-year career as an engineer with General Motors, George Weisz served as an Oshawa Harbour Commissioner, director of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, member of the City of Oshawa Committee of Adjustment, and volunteer for organizations such as the Oshawa Kiwanis Club.

Considering George Weisz's political and social contributions to Oshawa, the name "George Weisz" 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 George Weisz.

4.3 Options

Two options are available to the Economic and Development Services Committee with respect to the request to add “George Weisz” to the list of names approved for use as street names in the City of Oshawa.

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

Under this option, the street name George Weisz 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 George Weisz 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-25-52 dated April 30, 2025, the name George Weisz be added to the City’s Street Name Reserve List.”

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

Under this option, the street name George Weisz 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 George Weisz 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-25-52 dated April 30, 2025 concerning a request to add the name George Weisz 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Goodeve'.

Tom Goodeve, M.Sc.Pl., MCIP, RPP, Director,
Planning Services

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Ambra'.

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