



**CITY OF HAMILTON**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
*Roads & Traffic Division*  
*and*  
*Engineering Services Division*

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Facility Naming Sub-Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	August 15, 2018
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Renaming of Pier 8 Promenade Park to "Copps Pier" (PW18070) (Ward 2) (Outstanding Business List Item)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	Ward 2
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Sarah Linfoot-Fusina (905) 546-2424, Extension 5516  Gavin Norman (905)546-2424, Extension 4812
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Betty Matthews-Malone, P.Eng. Director, Roads & Traffic Public Works Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	Gord McGuire, O.L.S Director, Engineering Services Public Works Department

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the request to rename Pier 8 Promenade Park, 47 Discovery Drive, to “Copps Pier” be approved, as this request meets the guidelines set out in the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report responds to a motion made at the June 9, 2015 Facility Naming Sub-Committee Meeting:

- (a) That staff be directed to prepare a report to the Facility Naming Sub-Committee respecting the renaming of the park land and building on 47 Discovery Drive, Hamilton, known as Pier 8 (Waterfront Trust Centre) in the name of the Copps Family;

---

*OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.*

*OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.*

*OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.*

**SUBJECT: Renaming of Pier 8 Promenade Park to "Copps Pier"  
(PW18070) (Ward 2) – Page 2 of 5**

---

(b) That a Member of the Facility Naming Sub-committee and staff meet with the Copps family for their input on the renaming of the park land on 47 Discovery Drive.

An additional motion was passed at the January 25, 2017 Hamilton City Council meeting, approving the renaming of the Pipeline Trail Parkette to the “Geraldine Copps Parkette.”

At the February 2, 2017 Facility Naming Sub-Committee meeting, the committee discussed the renaming of “Geraldine Copps Parkette” and its relationship to Outstanding Business List Item A: Copps Facility Naming Opportunities. Staff were directed to continue to work with the Chair of the Facility Naming Sub-Committee and members of the Copps family for an additional suitable Copps family naming opportunity as per the original motion.

Staff consulted the Chair and members of the Copps family and determined that the renaming of Pier 8 Promenade Park to “Copps Pier” reflected the intent of the motions and was a fitting way to honour the Copps family and their commitment to the waterfront. Former Hamilton mayor, Victor Kennedy Copps, former Ward 4 Councillor Geraldine Copps and the Honourable Sheila Copps, all worked to improve water quality and enable public access to the waterfront.

The request meets the criteria set out in the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy.

***Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 5***

**FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial: The cost to fabricate and install signage to identify and commemorate “Copps Pier.” The selection of signage will be finalized with the Copps Family and Waterfront Development Office. Funding for the signage is being provided through the Capital Project Budget for the park.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

➤ Pier 8, 47 Discovery Drive, Hamilton

Pier 8 is located in Ward 2, north-east of Bayfront and Pier 4 Parks. It is situated on 12 hectares (30 acres) of land. Once fully developed, Pier 8 will be a vibrant urban waterfront community. It will include approximately 1,500 residential units and 13,000 square metres of commercial and institutional space.

➤ The Waterfront Redevelopment Project

In 2005, Council adopted *Setting Sail: Secondary Plan for West Harbour*. The plan established a framework for public improvements and private development to promote season-long and year-round enjoyment and appreciation of the waterfront. It was developed in response to the gradual disappearance of heavy industry and movement

---

*OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.*

*OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.*

*OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.*

**SUBJECT: Renaming of Pier 8 Promenade Park to "Copps Pier"  
(PW18070) (Ward 2) – Page 3 of 5**

---

of commercial port authority activity at the waterfront, in addition to the creation of Bayfront Park, Pier 4 Park and the Waterfront Trail.

A requirement of the Secondary Plan and adopted by Council in April 2010, The West Harbour Waterfront Recreation Master Plan (2010) was initiated following Council's adoption of *Setting Sail*. The aim of the West Harbour Waterfront Recreation Master Plan was to define and clarify planning design guidelines that would guide and shape the development of buildings and landscapes of the west harbour.

Also, as a requirement of *Setting Sail*, Council adopted the Pier 7 & 8 Urban Design Study in May 2016. It stated:

“Pier 8 will become a vibrant urban waterfront neighbourhood to be enjoyed by all residents of the City. The vitality of Hamilton’s urban waterfront will be supported by a mix of residential, commercial, community and cultural uses. The character of Pier 8 will be designed to be compatible with Pier 7 and to create a strong connection between this exciting new community and the rest of the Western Waterfront.”

In April 2017, the City of Hamilton launched a design competition for ‘Pier 8 Promenade Park.’ Request for Proposals were accepted from shortlisted design competition participants from May until August. Design proposals were then evaluated by a volunteer jury of local experts in landscape architecture and urban design. The proposals were also reviewed by members of the public. On September 22, 2017, landscape architect, Forrec Ltd. was announced as the design winner for their proposal called: “Hammer City.”

Construction on the park is expected to begin in the fall of 2018 with completion scheduled for the spring/summer of 2019.

➤ The Copps family and their connection to Hamilton’s waterfront

Victor Kennedy Copps was born in 1919 and moved to Hamilton in 1945 to take a job with CHML radio. He ran for political office in 1960 and became the City’s Controller. He was elected mayor in 1962 and remained Hamilton’s mayor until 1976.

Victor Copps was mayor at a pivotal time in Hamilton’s history. City planners had long recommended the need for Hamilton to diversify its economy and make physical improvements to the City that would signify that Hamilton was more than just a “steel town.” Copps supported the redevelopment of Hamilton’s downtown to include recreational and cultural activities and facilities for the City’s increasingly white-collar workforce.<sup>1</sup>

The waterfront was particularly controversial during his years as Mayor. Dumping was a significant issue at the waterfront, causing many residents to lobby local politicians, calling for an end to polluting the waterfront. Copps worked to reach an agreement with the Harbour Commission and in 1971 supported an agreement between the Harbour

---

<sup>1</sup> S. High, L. MacKinnon and A. Perchand, *The Deindustrialized World: Confronting Ruination in Postindustrial Places* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2017), 199.

**SUBJECT: Renaming of Pier 8 Promenade Park to "Copps Pier"  
(PW18070) (Ward 2) – Page 4 of 5**

---

Commission and Hamilton's two major steel producers, Stelco and Dofasco, in securing 127 hectares of land along the Beach Strip, 71 hectares of those to be set aside for a public park.<sup>2</sup>

Geraldine ("Gerry") Copps was wife to the late Victor Copps and mother to Mary, Sheila, Brenda and Kevin. Copps served as a citizen court judge from 1976 to 1985 and as Ward 4 Councillor for Hamilton City Council from 1985 to 2000. She was known for being committed to environmental and social issues. Copps was particularly interested in the safety of Hamilton's water and called on the Federal Government to fund the clean-up of Hamilton Harbour.<sup>3</sup>

Following in the footsteps of her parents, Sheila Maureen Copps, daughter of Victor and Geraldine Copps, chose a career in politics. In 1984, she was elected Liberal MP for the Province of Ontario and remained in office for the next 20 years. Copps also served as Deputy Prime Minister of Canada from 1993-1997. As Minister of Canadian Heritage, Copps struck an historic agreement between the City of Hamilton and the Harbour Commission in 2000 that would return ownership of the open land around the harbour to the City and be the first step towards making the waterfront accessible for public access and enjoyment. Copps believed that Hamilton harbour could be "Canada's Boston." She said, "we will be able to start building public access to all the parts of the harbour that have been closed off to everyone. [The agreement] opens up extraordinary potential for Hamilton Harbour to be both an economic dynamo and a recreational oasis."<sup>4</sup>

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS**

This naming request meets the required guidelines as set out in Section 4(b)(ii) of the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy and as detailed in the *Analysis and Rationale for Recommendation* section of this report.

### **RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

The Ward 10 Councillor, Chair of the Facility Naming Sub-Committee, has been consulted and supports the report recommendation.

The Ward 2 Councillor, has been consulted and supports the report recommendation.

The Ward 4 Councillor, mover of the motion, has been consulted and is in support of the report recommendation.

A Copps family member has been consulted and supports the report recommendation.

---

<sup>2</sup> N. Bouchier and K. Cruikshank, *The People and the Bay: A Social and Environmental History of Hamilton Harbour* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2016), 184.

<sup>3</sup> Nolan, D. (2016, October 18). Matriarch of Copps political family dies. *The Hamilton Spectator*, A1.

<sup>4</sup> Kilpatrick, K. (2000, June 29). Hamilton waterfront gets cash injection in revitalization bid. *The Globe and Mail*. Retrieved from [www.theglobeandmail.com](http://www.theglobeandmail.com)

## **ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

At the January 20, 2016 meeting, Council approved Report PW05142b to the Facility Naming Sub-Committee regarding the “City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy.” The policy serves to establish guidelines and regulations for naming property and buildings owned by the City of Hamilton.

The City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy has the following Property Listing categories from which proposed names for municipal properties and buildings may be selected: geographic, historic, and prominent individuals/organizations (listed in priority order).

Section 4(b)(iii) of the policy details the ‘Prominent’ category. It includes, in part, eligibility for names affiliated with individuals who have made a significant contribution to the community/city in one or more of the following areas:

- a) Individuals or families having an historical connection to a site
- b) Individuals or organizations having made a significant contribution to the community / City in one or more of the following areas;
  - Service as an elected official to the municipal, provincial or federal government for at least 2 terms

## **ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

Council may decide not to approve the proposed naming. This geographical area along Hamilton Harbour could remain known as Pier 8 Promenade Park. Alternatively, another name could be considered by the Facility Naming Sub-Committee. Staff does not recommend these alternatives as it does not address the intent of the motion and desire to recognize the Copps family for their public service to Hamilton and their commitment to improve water quality and enable public access to the waterfront.

## **ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **Built Environment and Infrastructure**

Hamilton is supported by state of the art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

## **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix A – Map of Proposed “Copps Pier”