

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2022**

Item 27, Report No. 30, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment, by the Council of the City of Vaughan via recorded vote on June 28, 2022:

#### **27. PARK NAMING IN MEMORY OF MARTIN TAVARES**

**The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the report of the Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Development, dated June 21, 2022.**

##### **Recommendations**

1. That the Block 18 District Park (UV2-D1) be named “Martin Tavares Park”.

## Committee of the Whole (2) Report

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**DATE:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022

**WARD(S):** 4

**TITLE:** PARK NAMING IN MEMORY OF MARTIN TAVARES

**FROM:**

Vince Musacchio, Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Development

**ACTION:** DECISION

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### **Purpose**

To receive direction from Council with respect to the naming of a park in memory of Martin Tavares.

### **Report Highlights**

- In May 2022 Council provided direction for staff to report back with a proposed park location to name in memory of Martin Tavares to recognize over 20 years of service and his personal and professional contributions to park planning and development at the City of Vaughan.
- A number of new park developments were reviewed as possible candidate locations, including new parks being prepared for development in Blocks 18, 31, 40, 47 and 61.
- Based on staff's review and in consideration of Martin's involvement and passion for acquiring lands and developing plans for the Block 18 District Park, staff recommend this location for park naming in memory of Martin for Council's consideration.

### **Recommendations**

1. That the Block 18 District Park (UV2-D1) be named "Martin Tavares Park".

## **Background**

In recognition of the impact Martin Tavares had on the planning and development of parks within the City of Vaughan throughout his 20 years of service, Council supported a resolution that a park be named in memory of Martin, after his untimely passing on April 15, 2022 after a long battle with cancer.

As the Manager of Parks and Open Space Planning in the Parks Infrastructure Planning and Development Department, colleague, friend, brother, son, father, and husband, he touched the lives of many with his humour, dedication, and tireless commitment to do what was right, despite the challenges. Martin was a passionate and dedicated advocate for advancing the parks and open space initiatives at the City of Vaughan and he worked tirelessly to secure and build a network of public parks and trails for all citizens to enjoy.

## **Previous Reports/Authority**

[Committee of the Whole, May 3, 2022, Item 9, Member's Resolution](#)

## **Analysis and Options**

The naming of a park in memory of Martin Tavares is consistent with Policy No. TPF - 006 Naming City Parks, Open Spaces, Community Facilities and Other Municipal Buildings and Properties (Attachment 1) Section 3.0 Name Designation in Honour of Individuals or Groups, specifically the following relevant sections:

- 3.4 - Naming in honour of City administrative officials, staff or elected or appointed public official shall normally occur only after the City employment or public service has concluded.
- 3.6 - Where the name of an individual is so used, approval shall be obtained from the individual or the next of kin for such naming. A formal request may include a reference letter or letter of recommendation from a distinguished person.
- 3.7 - Notwithstanding the above, Council, by resolution, may approve a name or name change, in honour of individuals or groups when circumstances justify such action. Council may also remove the original name designation when circumstances justify such action.

Staff compiled a list of new park developments that would potentially be suitable for park naming in memory of Martin. The list of new parks includes the following with a map of park locations appended as Attachment 2:

| New Park Location (ID #)               | Ward | Proposed Features/Park Development Timing  |
|--|------|--|
| Block 61W Neighbourhood Park (61W-N4)  | 1    | Playground, multi-use/basketball court, shade structure, seating areas, walkways, landscape planting, adjacent to future elementary school<br>Design/Construction planned 2023-2024  |
| Block 61W Neighbourhood Park (61W-N5)  | 1    | Playground, tennis courts, shade structure, seating areas, walkways, landscape planting<br>Design/Construction planned 2023-2024   |
| Block 40 Neighbourhood Park (UV1-N25)  | 3    | Playground, multi-use/basketball court, shade structure, seating areas, walkways, landscape planting<br>Design/Construction 2024-2025  |
| Block 47 Neighbourhood Park (UVI-N29)  | 3    | Playground, tennis courts, skatezone, shade structure, seating areas, walkways, landscape planting<br>Design/Construction 2024-2026  |
| Block 18 Public Square (CC18-S5)       | 4    | Playground, shade structure, seating areas, landscape planting<br>Design/Construction 2022-2023  |
| Block 18 District Park (UV2-D1)        | 4    | District playground, water play, lit tennis courts, local off-leash dog area, amphitheatre, park building (washroom, changeroom), basketball court, multi-use/ball hockey court, fitness equipment, shade structures, picnic areas, seating areas, trails and walkways, landscape planting, parking<br>Design/Construction 2022-2024 |
| Block 31 Neighbourhood Park (VMCSP-N2) | 4    | Playground, water play, multi-use/basketball court, seating areas, walkways, landscape planting, ice rink (future phase)<br>Design/Construction 2023-2025  |

Through discussions with staff, it is suggested that the Block 18 District Park (UV2-D1) would be a suitable choice for a park naming in memory of Martin as he was integral to all aspects of this park from the dedication and acquisition of lands, through to the park planning, community engagement process and design. Throughout the park planning process Martin had expressed a special passion for developing a vision for the Block 18 District Park through meaningful engagement with the local community, schools, and students.

The Block 18 District Park is a 7.7 hectares in area and will be developed in two phases. Phasing of the new district park is necessary due to servicing required for the water play and washroom building will be provided from the adjacent future development. These future services will not prevent the City from proceeding with the construction of Phase 1 of the park with key facilities and amenities for the local community to start enjoying in the next few years.

Phase 1 of the park will include a district playground facility, asphalt pathways, trail connections to the Cooks Woodlot, an open air amphitheater and gathering space, picnic shelters, and local off-leash dog area. Phase 1 will be tendered in 2022 and under construction in 2023.

Phase 2 of the park will include the washroom building, water play area, multiuse court, basketball court, multi-use/ball hockey court, three lit tennis courts, shade structures, outdoor fitness equipment, bicycle repair station, parking, and passive contemplation areas.

Other factors that were identified when considering the appropriateness of the Block 18 District Park location include:

- Location – the park is located within walking distance of City Hall, accessible by several means of transportation (vehicular, transit, and active transportation), and is a park that is intended to serve the larger community, with a balance of park amenities to suit a variety of ages and abilities, something that Martin strongly supported.
- Opportunity – the Block 18 District Park is currently in the design stage with a plan to tender Phase 1 park construction by Q4 2022 followed by construction in 2023-2024.
- Timing – the park has not yet been named and assigning a name will be timely for incorporation into design drawings and park plans. A dedication ceremony can be coordinated with the ribbon cutting following the completion of Phase 1 construction.

Staff have discussed Council's proposed park naming with Martin's family and permission has been given to use Martin's name for this honour. The family sincerely appreciates Council's consideration to acknowledge Martin in this way.

Following Council approval of the park naming, staff will incorporate the new park name into plans for site signage and City records. A dedication ceremony will be planned at a future date with the Tavares family following the completion of Phase 1 park design and construction which is currently in progress and planned for completion in 2024.

### **Financial Impact**

No additional costs will be incurred as park signage will be included as part of the park development cost.

### **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

Not Applicable.

### **Conclusion**

On May 3, 2022, staff received direction through a Member's Resolution to report back to Council with a location for a park to be named in memory of Martin Tavares. Following a review of potential sites and based on Martin's involvement and passion for the planning and design of the Block 18 District Park, staff recommends Council approve the naming of this park in his memory.

**For more information**, please contact: Jamie Bronsema, Director, Parks Infrastructure Planning & Development, extension 8858.

### **Attachments**

1. [Policy No. TPF – 006 Naming City Parks, Open Spaces, Community Facilities and Other Municipal Buildings and Properties, June 8, 2010](#)
2. Park Location Map
3. Email from the Tavares Family in support of the naming of the park.

### **Prepared by**

Michael Habib, Acting Manager, Parks and Open Space Planning, Extension 8092  
Jamie Bronsema, Director, Parks Infrastructure Planning and Development, Extension 8858

**Approved by**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Musacchio'.

Vince Musacchio,  
Deputy City Manager  
Infrastructure Development

**Reviewed by**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Spensieri'.

Nick Spensieri, City Manager

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|--------------------|--|
| <b>Policy No:</b>  | <b>TPF – 006</b>   |
| <b>Department:</b> | <b>TRANSPORTATION SERVICES &amp; ROADS, PARKS AND FORESTRY OPERATIONS</b>                                |
| <b>Subject:</b>    | <b>NAMING CITY PARKS, OPEN SPACES, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES</b> |

## **POLICY FOR NAMING CITY PARKS, OPEN SPACES, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS OR PROPERTIES**

### **1.0 Intent of Policy**

- 1.1 To provide a policy and guidelines for naming City parks, open spaces, community facilities and other municipal buildings or properties.
- 1.2 To retain a measure of flexibility in the naming policy recognizing the role names play in educating the public, promoting a particular facility, and minimizing conflicting names for emergency services.
- 1.3 This policy does not apply to naming of streets unless there is a formal request to name a street in honour of individuals or groups, in which case, this policy shall apply.

### **2.0 Name Destination Associated with Functional Use Geographic Location or Historical Significance**

- 2.1 Staff may assign a name based on the adjacent street, functional use, geographic feature, community name or historic significance. Examples include:

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Worth Park                    | - Adjacent to Worth Avenue                 |
| Thomhill Park                 | - Community                                |
| Glen Shields Park             | - Neighbourhood                            |
| West Vaughan Community Centre | - Geographic                               |
| Joint Operations Centre       | - Function                                 |
| Ansley Grove Woodlot          | - Adjacent to Ansley Grove Road/Functional |
| Benjamin Vaughan Complex      | - Historic Significance                    |
- 2.2 Chosen names within this designation shall be assigned at such time as deemed appropriate by Staff and may remain unchanged until a formal request for a name change has been approved by Council.
- 2.3 The chosen name shall not conflict with similar names in whole or in part. For example if a park is named Oak Park no other similar name shall be used such as Red Oak Park.

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|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Council Approval: | 2010/06/08             | Amended:        | N/A |
| Report No/Item:   | 26/38                  | Report No/Item: | N/A |
| Cross Reference:  | Old Policy No. 04.3.11 |                 |     |

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| <b>Policy No:</b>  | <b>TPF – 006</b>   |
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| <b>Subject:</b>    | <b>NAMING CITY PARKS, OPEN SPACES, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES</b> |

2.4 Generally chosen names shall reflect the adjacent street name. For example: Tori Park – majority street frontage on Tori Street. This is to ensure continuity and minimize conflicts for emergency services.

2.5 Every effort shall be made to avoid conflicts with neighbouring municipalities, especially where streets cross municipal boundaries. Avoid using the same name which may already exist in a neighbouring municipality, for example, Yonge Street Parkette, Vaughan, Yonge Street Parkette, Markham.

### 3.0 **Name Designation in Honour of Individuals or Groups**

3.1 This section shall apply to any request to name or rename a public park, open space, community facility, or any other municipal building or property in honour of individuals or groups.

3.2 Council shall consider all names in honour of individuals or groups. Any request to name, designate or change a name in honour of individuals or groups shall be submitted to the Clerks Department of the City of Vaughan, in writing, with supporting explanation or justification. Council approval is required.

### 3.3 **Criteria/Guidelines for Names Honouring Individuals or Groups**

Names for consideration shall be those of distinguished persons, organizations, corporations, foundations or the families:

- .1 where there has been a significant contribution to the quality of life, well-being of the City of Vaughan, to memorialize or otherwise recognize substantial donations and significant donors, and/or individuals designated by donors and is consistent with Vaughan Vision 20/20; or,
- .2 where there is a strong historical or cultural connection to the City and has made a significant contribution to the historical or cultural preservation of the City; or,
- .3 where there is a significant contribution (other than monetary) toward the environmental preservation, conservation or enhancement of the City consistent with Vaughan Vision 20/20 and / or Green Directions Vaughan; or,

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|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Council Approval: | 2010/06/08             | Amended:        | N/A |
| Report No/Item:   | 26/38                  | Report No/Item: | N/A |
| Cross Reference:  | Old Policy No. 04.3.11 |                 |     |

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| <b>Subject:</b>    | <b>NAMING CITY PARKS, OPEN SPACES, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES</b> |

- .4 where there is a major contribution made to the acquisition, development or conveyance of land and/or building, in question and/or its subsequent development; or,
- .5 where there is a direct relationship or association that exists between the place or former place of residence of the person or group and the facility/park/street to be named.

- 3.4 Naming in honour of City administrative officials, staff or elected or appointed public official shall normally occur only after the City employment or public service has concluded.
- 3.5 Where the name of an individual is so used, approval shall be obtained from the individual or the next of kin for such naming. A formal request may include a reference letter or letter or recommendation from a distinguished person.
- 3.6 Notwithstanding the above, Council, by resolution, may approve a name or name change, in honour of individuals or groups when circumstances justify such action. Council may also remove the original name designation when circumstances justify such action.

#### **4.0 Names Derived from Contests or Solicited from the Community**

- 4.1 Council may direct staff to derive names from either contests or staff may establish an ad hoc community group/task force, including staff, to solicit and recommend names.
- 4.2 With each contest or ad hoc community group task force, Staff shall make recommendation with respect to:
  - .1 terms of reference;
  - .2 timing;
  - .3 membership;
  - .4 scope of committee;
  - .5 rules and judging for contests.

#### **5.0 Names of Provincial National or International Significance**

- 5.1 Council may approve a name or name change in honour of individuals or group who have made an outstanding contribution to Ontario, Canada or Internationally.
- 5.2 In such circumstances, and prior to approving the use of any name of individuals or group,

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|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Council Approval: | 2010/06/08             | Amended:        | N/A |
| Report No/Item:   | 26/38                  | Report No/Item: | N/A |
| Cross Reference:  | Old Policy No. 04.3.11 |                 |     |

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staff shall investigate any protocol and/or requirements of any provincial, national or international agency or organization.

#### 6.0 **Inventory of Names**

- 6.1 The Commissioner of Community Services or the Commissioner's designate shall be responsible for maintaining an inventory of names for parks, open spaces, community facilities, historic houses and municipal buildings.

#### 7.0 **Procedures**

- 7.1 Procedures for submitting a name designation in honour of an individual or group is outlined in Appendix A, as amended from time to time.

#### 8.0 **Signage**

- 8.1 The City will be responsible for coordinating the public presentation of signage to acknowledge the name or rename designation. Costs of signage associated with naming, renaming or adopting of a public park, street, facility, building, or property as outlined in this policy will generally be the responsibility of the applicant. Council, dependent on the circumstance, may approve funds associated with the naming or renaming proposal.
- 8.2 The City will have final approval for the selection and location of any signage, including signage text.
- 8.3 The addition of flowers, plant material and other landscaping materials near the signage is encouraged but shall not interfere with visibility. Plans are to be approved by Parks Operations & Forestry Department.
- 8.4 The responsibility of ongoing maintenance for signage will be determined through agreement between the applicant and the City.

Council Approval: 2010/06/08  
Report No/Item: 26/38  
Cross Reference: Old Policy No. 04.3.11

Amended: N/A  
Report No/Item: N/A

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## **APPENDIX "A"**

### **POLICY FOR NAMING CITY PARKS, OPEN SPACES, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS OR PROPERTIES**

#### **PROCEDURES FOR NAME DESIGNATION IN HONOUR OF INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS**

- A. 1 An individual or group wishing to submit a request for a name in honour of an individual or group must provide a written proposal to the Clerk's Department of the City of Vaughan, which contain the following minimum information:

- .1 name of the applicant; and,
- .2 identification of the park, street, facility, building or property proposed to be named; and,
- .3 proposed name; and,
- .4 background information which details the accomplishment and/or significant contribution to the City of Vaughan supporting the name designation, (refer to section 3.3); and,
- .5 letter of approval from the individual or the next of kin for using such naming.

Proposals are encouraged to include letters of endorsement supporting the application.

- A.2 The Clerk's Department shall distribute the request to the Mayor and members of Council, City Manager, Commissioner of Community Services and the Director of Legal Services for information.
- A.3 The Clerk's Department shall convene a meeting of staff, as appropriate, to review the request. Staff, in evaluating the request, shall use the criteria outlined in Section 3 and forward a report for Council's consideration.
- A.4 Staff from the following departments shall be involved in reviewing all requests and shall from time to time review this policy.
- .1 Clerks

Council Approval: 2010/06/08  
Report No/Item: 26/38  
Cross Reference: Old Policy No. 04.3.11

Amended: N/A  
Report No/Item: N/A

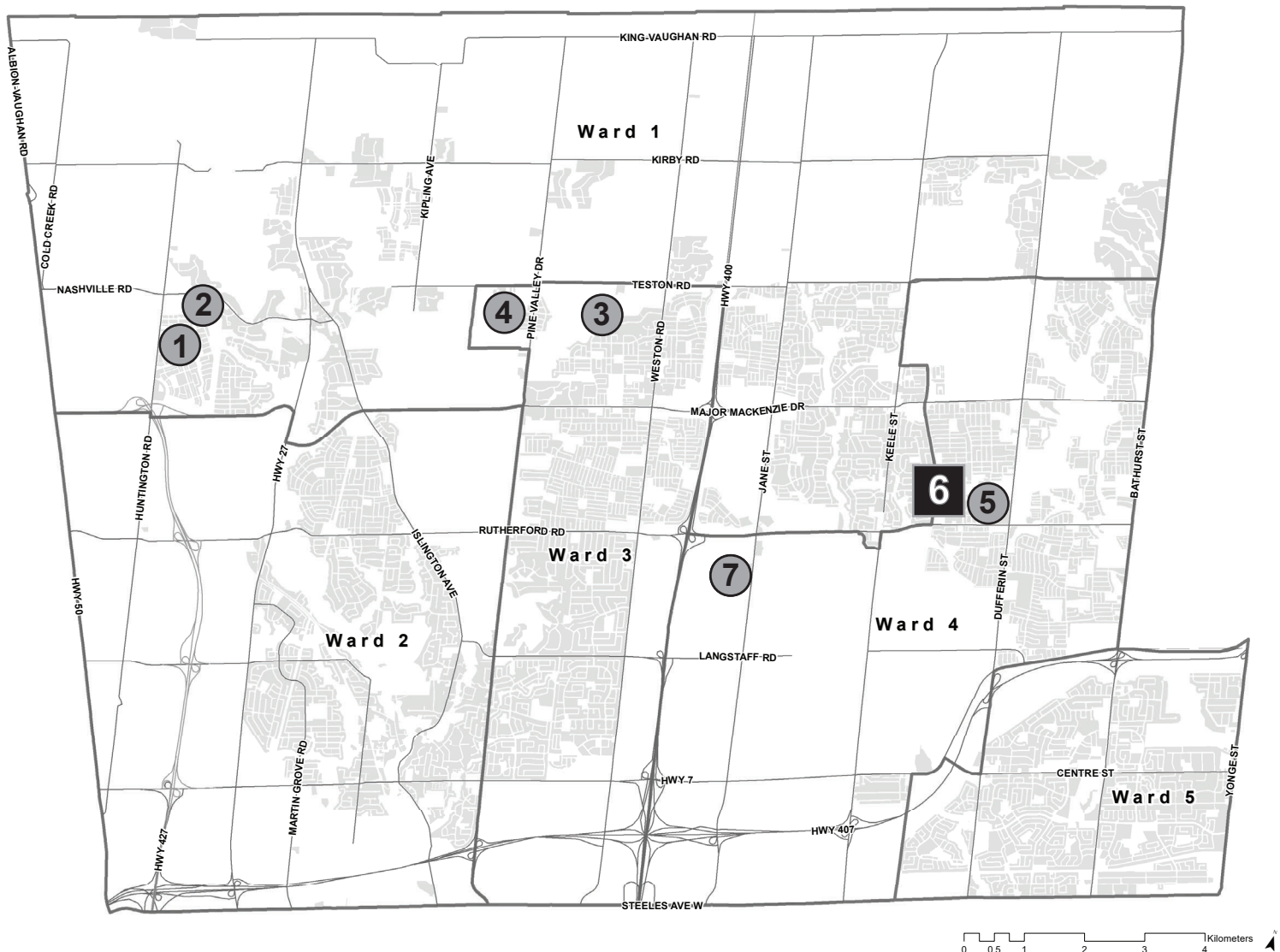
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| <b>Policy No:</b>  | <b>TPF – 006</b>   |
| <b>Department:</b> | <b>TRANSPORTATION SERVICES &amp; ROADS, PARKS AND FORESTRY OPERATIONS</b>                                |
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- .2 Parks Development
- .3 Parks Operations
- .4 Recreation and Culture
- .5 Buildings and Facilities

- A.5 If a name or rename request is directly associated or on land donated to the City, the original donor or family will be advised when possible.
- A.6 If a name or rename request is submitted, staff shall conduct a historical review of the current name prior to recommending approval.
- A.7 Staff shall review all proposals for signage text, type and location.

Council Approval: 2010/06/08  
 Report No/Item: 26/38  
 Cross Reference: Old Policy No. 04.3.11

Amended: N/A  
 Report No/Item: N/A



| No. | New Park ID/Location                   |
|-----|--|
| 1   | Block 61W Neighbourhood Park (61W-N4)  |
| 2   | Block 61W Neighbourhood Park (61W-N5)  |
| 3   | Block 40 Neighbourhood Park (UV1-N25)  |
| 4   | Block 47 Neighbourhood Park (UVI-N29)  |
| 5   | Block 18 Public Square (CC18-S5)       |
| 6   | Block 18 District Park (UV2-D1)        |
| 7   | Block 31 Neighbourhood Park (VMCSP-N2) |

## Legend

- Ward Boundary
- Residential Area
- Park Location
- Recommended Park

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**From:** Diana T [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 4:43 PM  
**Subject:** [External] Park naming in memory of Martin Tavares

To the Honourable Mayor Bevilacqua and Members of Council,

Although we are still heavily grieving the loss of my husband and father to our two children, I wanted to reach out to share a few words with you all. As you might imagine, finding the right words at such a time can be difficult, however the thought of Martin's positive attitude and work ethic helped me to write this.

I would like to first and foremost thank you for considering the idea of naming a park in Martin's memory. It is a wonderful way to keep his legacy alive and honour the hard work and dedication he had for his job in the beautiful City of Vaughan. We would often take our children to various parks in Vaughan because the kids would always say the parks there were 'a lot more fun' than in any other city - and Martin did agree.

Martin loved to be outdoors and to contribute to the creation of beautiful outdoor spaces where families could gather and make memories of their own. The naming of one of these parks in memory of Martin is very meaningful to me and our entire family and I know it would mean a lot to Martin as it would be another way that we could all connect to his spirit.

In closing, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart, for the kindness you have shown to Martin and our family through his painful journey with cancer. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

With sincere gratitude,

Diana, Julia and Jeremy Tavares