

Consolidated Clause in Scarborough Community Council Report 7, which was considered by City Council on September 28, 29 and 30, 2005.

3

**Agincourt Heritage Conservation District Study Area
(Ward 41 - Scarborough Rouge River)**

City Council on September 28, 29 and 30, 2005, adopted this Clause without amendment.

The Scarborough Community Council recommends that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 8, 2005) from the Director, Policy and Research, City Planning Division, as recommended by the Toronto Preservation Board.

Purpose:

To identify the Agincourt neighbourhood for potential designation under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act as a Heritage Conservation District and to seek authority for the City to receive donations to fund the necessary studies.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) City Council identify the area shown in Attachment 1 of this report as the Agincourt Heritage Conservation District Study Area;
- (2) City Council authorize the acceptance of donations to be used to conduct the Agincourt Heritage Conservation District Study until August 30, 2006, and that all donations received be held in a separate account designated for that purpose;
- (3) City Council authorize the reimbursement of the community group selected to conduct the study from donations received for that purpose, upon completion of the professional work to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director of City Planning;
- (4) the Treasurer be authorized to issue an Income Tax receipt to the donor for funds donated in the amount of \$10 or more; and

- (5) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

Agincourt is bounded by Sheppard Avenue East to the south, the Canadian National Railway tracks to the west, Lockie Avenue to the north, and Midland Avenue to the east (see Attachment 1). The Scarborough Community Preservation Panel had for some time been interested in how Heritage Conservation District designation could assist in the preservation and enhancement of the heritage streetscapes of this historic Scarborough village. This interest led the Panel to organize and chair a neighbourhood meeting (May 25, 2005) at which staff and the Panel chair made a presentation about the benefits and implications of a Heritage Conservation District for Agincourt Village. The Ward Councillor was present at this meeting.

At this meeting it was explained to the residents and the Panel that they would be responsible for the work and expense of studying the area and preparing a District Plan for City Council's consideration. It was also explained that Planning staff stand ready to assist by guiding the process, providing administrative functions, offering advice and reviewing the work as it progressed.

The unanimous feeling at this meeting was that Agincourt should be studied to determine its potential for Heritage Conservation District designation and that City Council's approval should be sought to allow the residents and the Panel to initiate the study process under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Comments:

Agincourt began as a small village centred around the Knox Presbyterian Church on the northwest corner of Sheppard and Midland Avenues. Constructed in 1846 and rebuilt in 1872, the brick structure still stands today. In 1858, the "Agincourt" post office opened, and two railway stations opened in the late 1800's. This led to the building of the first Agincourt subdivision in 1913, between Midland Avenue and the railway tracks. The most significant wave of development in Agincourt took place between 1945 and 1965, when most of the present day neighbourhood was developed.

Agincourt is a good example, both architecturally and historically, of an original rural hamlet engulfed by post-World War II suburban development. It is similar to Weston, approved by Council for study as a Heritage Conservation District in 2004. Staff are of the opinion that this area has significant heritage resources, including buildings built throughout the 20th Century, and that it qualifies for a Heritage Conservation District study. The boundary of the study area is illustrated on the map attached to this report (Attachment 1).

The study will be conducted by local volunteers and a professional heritage consultant engaged by and paid by the Scarborough Community Preservation Panel and local residents, from donations received for that purpose. To facilitate the engagement of professional consultants, staff recommend that the City accept these charitable donations, to be disbursed to the Panel when the study has been completed to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director of City Planning. Staff will support, guide and review the study as required. Public

participation and consultation with the area's property owners and residents will occur throughout the study process.

The study format includes a statement of the objectives of the Heritage Conservation District, an analysis of the suitability of the area for designation, boundary rationale and review of existing City policies. In defining the heritage character of the area, the study will document the history of the buildings in Agincourt, their architectural and historical significance and the growth and evolution of the neighbourhood.

The Study will include guidelines for managing change consistent with good heritage conservation principles and development of an implementation strategy including any changes to the zoning by-law necessary to support the objectives of the designation. At the conclusion of the study, staff will report on the process, the suitability of the area for designation as a Heritage Conservation District under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (the Act) and make recommendations on appropriate guidelines and boundaries.

If City Council ultimately designates a Heritage Conservation District in the area, the study would form the District Plan required by the Act. The District Plan would provide guidance to the public, property owners, staff and City Council when considering alterations, demolitions and new construction in the area.

Conclusions:

Agincourt is a neighbourhood with significant historical and architectural resources. Staff have reviewed the proposed area on a preliminary basis and have determined that it would qualify for study as a heritage conservation district. Staff support the local initiative to undertake a Heritage Conservation District study of Agincourt and recommend Council identify the area shown in Attachment 1 as the Agincourt Heritage Conservation District Study Area.

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The Community Council also considered a communication (September 2, 2005) from the Toronto Preservation Board, recommending to the Scarborough Community Council that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 8, 2005) from the Director, Policy and Research, City Planning Division.

AGINCOURT HCD STUDY AREA

ATTACHMENT 1

