Regular



Licensing and Standards Committee

Meeting No.	2
Meeting Date	Friday, February 16, 2007
Start Time	9:30 AM
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall

Contact Mary Carroll, Committee Administrator 416-392-7822 Phone E-mail mcarrol@toronto.ca

Councillor Howard Moscoe (Chair) Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong (Vice Chair)

Councillor Sandra Bussin

Councillor Rob Ford Councillor Mike Del Grande Councillor Anthony Perruzza

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2

Licensing and Standards Committee – February 16, 2007 Agenda

Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Speakers/Presentations

Confirmation of Minutes: January 19, 2007

Communications/Reports

LS2.1	ACTION			Wards: All
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Enhanced Property Standards for Designated Heritage Buildings

(January 17, 2007) report from Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, and Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division

Recommendations

The City Planning Division and Municipal Licensing and Standards Division recommend that:

- 1. City Council:
 - a. prescribe minimum standards for the maintenance of the heritage attributes of property designated under Part IV (Individual Designation) or Part V (Heritage Conservation Districts) of the Ontario Heritage Act, as listed in Attachment 1; and
 - b. require designated properties that do not comply with the standards to be repaired and maintained to conform with the standards;
- 2. Municipal Code Chapter 629, Property Standards, be amended to include the heritage property standards listed in Attachment 1;
- 3. the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, be directed to implement and enforce the amended property standards relating to designated heritage properties, with the assistance of the City Planning Division staff;
- 4. the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, in consultation with the City Solicitor, be directed to report to the Licensing and Standards Committee on the use of the City's powers under the City of Toronto Act to effect the immediate repair of deficiencies which could contribute to deterioration in the structural integrity of a designated heritage building;
- 5. the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division, be directed to report in one year to the Licensing and Standards Committee on any additional staff resources needed to effectively enforce the enhanced heritage property standards; and

6. the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction of any necessary bills.

Financial Impact

These recommendations will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

Summary

Recent revisions to the Ontario Heritage Act (the Act) permit Council to implement Heritage Property Standards to protect the heritage attributes of properties designated under the Act. Existing property standards apply to all buildings, however, this tool could give additional protection against the loss of heritage features on designated buildings through neglect and ensure repairs that are made maintain the heritage character of the building. Staff recommend that Council amend the existing Property Standards by-law to include enhanced property standards for heritage properties. These enhancements are in the areas of appearance and maintenance of heritage attributes.

Municipal Licensing and Standards (Investigations) and City Planning (Heritage Preservation Services) staff will work together within the existing property standards enforcement system to identify and protect the heritage attributes of designated buildings. The right of an owner to delay repairs during appeals of orders issued in the current system can frustrate the City's attempts to require owners to maintain property. Staff recommend a further report on the City's power, under the City of Toronto Act, to carry out emergency repairs to protect the structural integrity of heritage property. The use of the City's ability to prosecute an owner who, inadvertently or willingly neglects a heritage building which, as a result, requires demolition without the consent of Council, is discussed.

Limited staff resources to perform investigations and appear at appeal hearings could diminish the effectiveness of heritage property standards.

Background Information

Jt Rpt 2007-01-17 Enhanced Property Standards for Designated Heritage Buildings (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1524.pdf) Planning Heritage Report - Attachment 1 (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1126.pdf)

LS2.2	Information			Wards: All
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Seizure of Motor Vehicles Involved in Prostitution Related Offences

(January 25, 2007) report from City Solicitor

Summary

At its meeting on September 28, 29, and 30, 2005, City Council requested the City Solicitor to report back with respect to legislation in other provinces dealing with this issue, and in

particular, Bill 28 of Nova Scotia, which proposed to give municipalities authority to seize and impound vehicles being used to commit offences under the prostitution related sections of the Criminal Code of Canada.

Currently the only jurisdictions in Canada with legislation providing for the seizure of vehicles, in prostitution related offences are Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. No province has granted the authority to municipalities to pass by-laws in this regard. The validity of the legislation in Manitoba and Saskatchewan has not been challenged. However, if Ontario were to pass a similar law, there are strong legal arguments to challenge the law's validity.

Background Information

Rpt 2007-01-25 Seizure of Motor Vehicles Involved in Prostitution Related Offences (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1525.pdf)

LS2.3 ACTION War	ds: All
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Taxicab Driver Protective Shield Program

(August 2, 2006) letter from City Council

Summary

City Council on July 25, 26 and 27, 2006, amongst other things, referred to the first meeting of the new Licensing and Standards Committee in 2007, the report (June 19, 2006) from the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, entitled "Taxicab Driver Protective Shield Program," recommending that the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards Division:

1. conduct a feasibility study regarding a mandatory taxi shield program and report to Planning and Transportation Committee by March 2007; and

2. undertake an independent, statistically valid survey of Toronto citizens who are taxicab users to determine their views on the implementation of a mandatory taxi cab shield program.

Background Information

June 19, 2006 Staff Report (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1610.pdf) Taxicab Driver Protective Shield Program - Letter from Council (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1565.pdf)

LS2.4	ACTION		Ward A	ls: \II
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Truck Billboard Advertising

(October 6, 2006) letter from City Council

Summary

City Council on September 25, 26 and 27, 2006, referred to the Licensing and Standards Committee motion J(11) by Councillor Joe Mihevc, seconded by Councillor Kyle Rae, requesting that:

"... City Council request the City Solicitor to develop a by-law banning the operation of vehicles used for the sole purpose of advertising, modelled after similar by-laws in Vancouver and Montreal; and that a draft by-law, with a supporting staff report, be forwarded to Council for consideration in the winter of 2007, through the Licensing and Standards Committee."

Background Information

Ltr 2006-10-06 Truck Billboard Advertising (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1553.pdf)

LS2.5	ACTION			Wards: All
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Interpretation of the Sign By-law: Video Equipped Signs at Drive-Through Locations

(October 12, 2006) letter from North York Community Council

Summary

The North York Community Council on September 13, 2006, referred to the Licensing and Standards Committee a motion by Councillor Howard Moscoe requesting that:

"... the interpretation of the sign by-law with respect to video equipped signs within drivethrough locations be referred to the Licensing and Standards Committee, or the appropriate successor Committee dealing with these matters, for its consideration."

Background Information

Letter from North York Community Council (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-1528.pdf)