

STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

1300 Castlefield Ave. Sign Variance Request for Two First Party Ground Signs

Date:	December 10, 2007	
To:	North York Community Council	
From:	Director of Building and Deputy Chief Building Official	
Wards:	Ward 15, Eglinton - Lawrence	
Reference Number:	File No: 2008NY002 Folder No: 07 – 280865 ZSV 00 ZR	

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that the community council has delegated authority to make a final decision provided it is not amended so that it varies with City policy or bylaws.

The purpose of this report is to make recommendations on a request by Mark Bales of Counterpoint Engineering on behalf of the owners, Castlefield/Caledonia Developments Inc.("CCD"), of 1300 Castlefield Avenue and the tenants, Lowe's Companies Canada U.L.C. –"Lowe's" for a variance from former City of York Sign By-law No. 3369-79, as amended, to permit installation of two ground/pylons signs; one erected along Caledonia Road and one at the northwest corner of Castlefield Avenue and Ronald Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Toronto Building, North York District recommends that:

- 1. North York Community Council approve the request to permit two ground signs one along Caledonia Road and one at the northwest corner of Castlefield Avenue and Ronald Avenue
- 2. The applicant be advised, upon approval of the variance, of the requirement to obtain the necessary sign permit from the Chief Building Official.

Financial Impact

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

COMMENTS

The subject property is the site of "Lowe's", a large format retailer entering the Canadian marketplace, located on the corner of Catlefield Avenue and Caledonia Avenue. The property is zoned PE (Prestige Employment). Lowe's obtained site plan approval in November of 2006 for the proposed development.

The applicant in his letter, dated November 21, 2007 (Attachment 5) states that the proposed signage was identified during the site plan approval process and was subject to extensive and comprehensive review during the site plan approval. These signs are an integral part of the development and are necessary to identify the retail facilities on the site.

City of York Sign By-law 3369-79 allows ground signs for identification purposes to be erected on the property provided the signs abut arterial roads; these signs do not abut arterial roads. Each of the proposed signs will be 8.56 m. high by 5.38 m. wide with a total area of 24.41 m. sq. (28.08 ft. x17.68 ft. =254 sq. ft.) in signage area. Attachment 3 shows the proposed sign configuration and the overall dimensions. A small portion (18%) of the proposed signage will be illuminated. The height and aggregate signage area are in compliance with the sign by-law requirements.

There are no residential developments surrounding this property which lands are all zoned prestige employment (Attachment 2).

Proposed signage does not comply with the City of York Sign By-law 3369-79 as amended, in the following ways:

Sign By-law Section Requirements	Applicant's Proposal	Required Variance
Section 17.2.5 Signs for Shopping Centres and Business Parks.		
One ground sign is permitted for each frontage on the premises, provided each frontage abuts an arterial road	To erect two ground signs that front Caledonia Rd. and Castlefield Avenue both of which are not arterial roads	To allow 2 ground signs along two roads that are not designated as arterial roads.

CONTACT

Galina Veltman P. Eng., Manager Plan Review Tel: 416-395-7018; Fax: 416-395-7589; E-mail: veltman@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Steve Franklin P. Eng
Director of Building and

Deputy Chief Building Official

North District

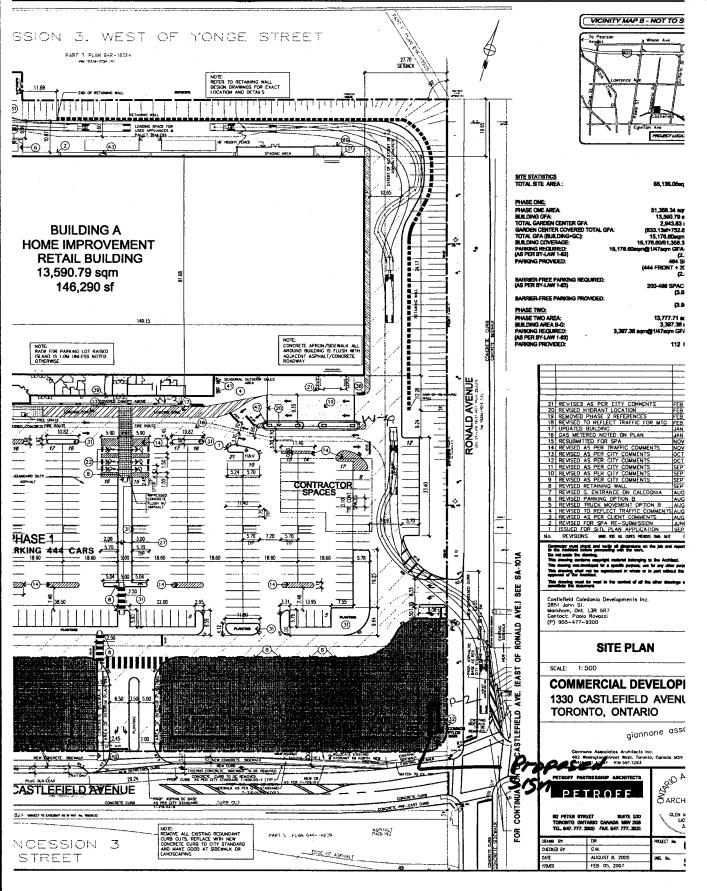
ATTACHMENTS

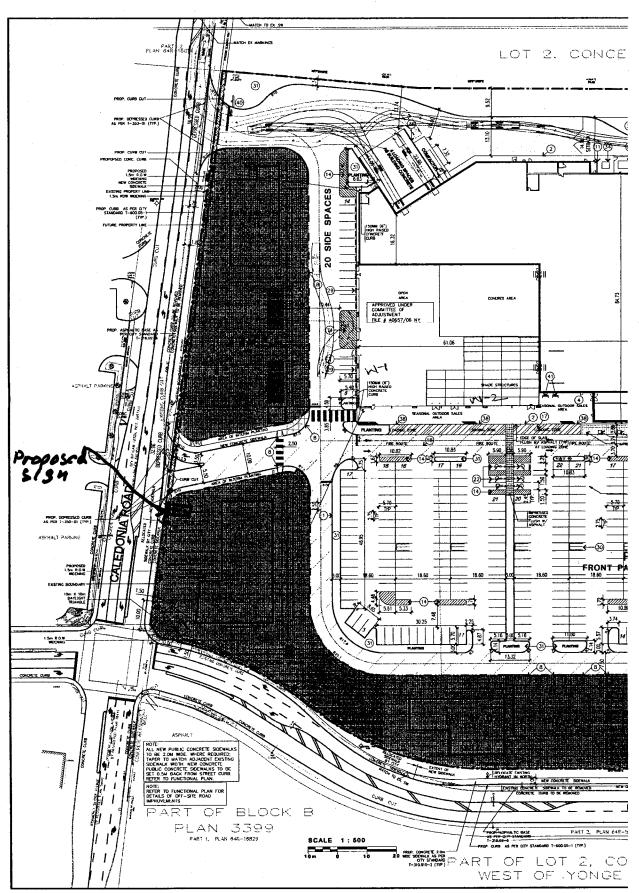
Attachment 1 Site Plan Attachment 2 Zoning Map

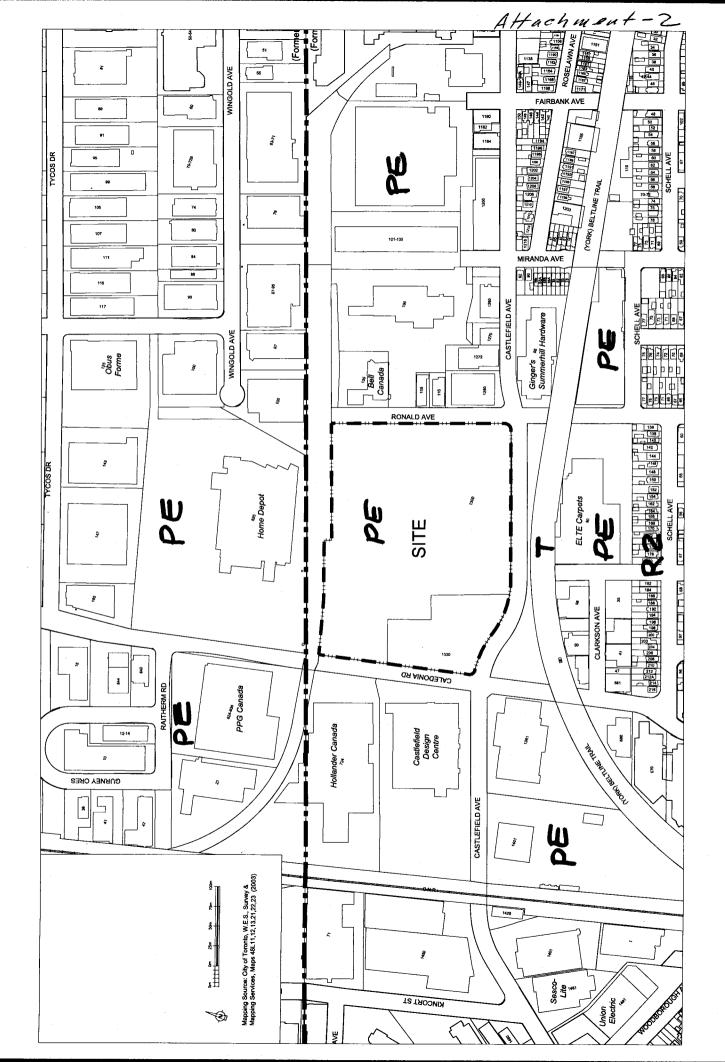
Attachment 3 Proposed Sign Elevation

Attachment 4 Sign Details

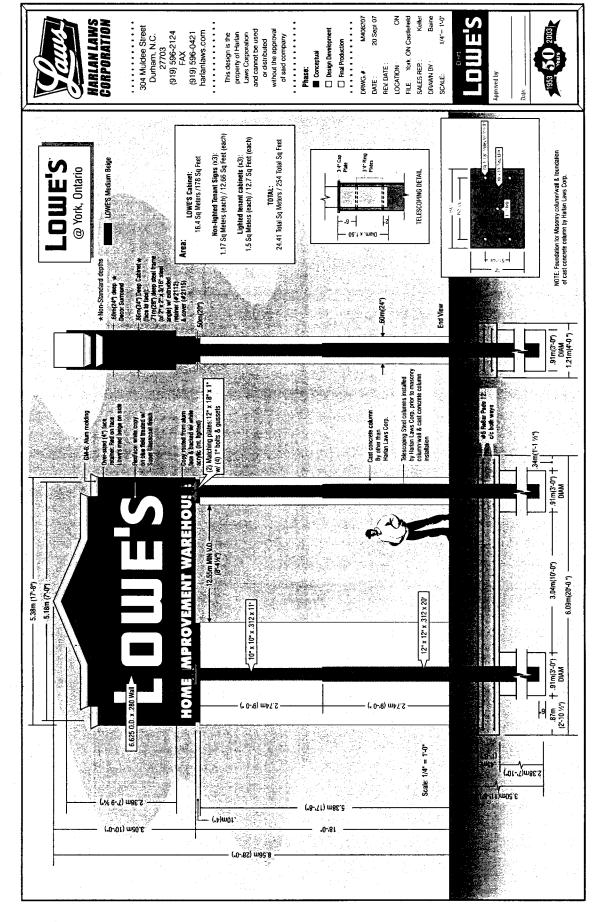
Attachment 5 Applicants Letter

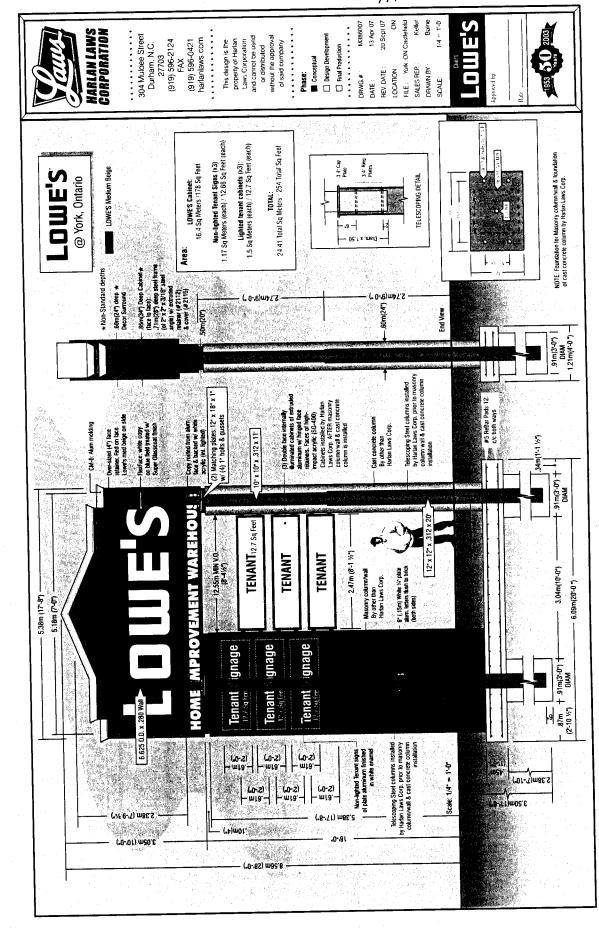






Attochmont-3







November 21, 2007

Delivered by Hand

City of Toronto
Building Division
5100 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M2N 5V7

Attention: Galina Veltman

Dear Ms Veltman

SUBJECT: Proposed Sign Variance

Former City of York By-law 3369-79

1300 Castlefield Avenue

Toronto, Ontario Our File: 05306

We are the applicants on behalf of the tenant of the above noted property (Lowe's Companies Canada, U.L.C. – "Lowe's") and the owners, Castlefield/Caledonia Developments Inc. ("CCD") in respect of the above noted application.

Background:

As you are aware, Lowe's and CCD have worked with the City in respect of the site plan approval for the Lowe's store at 1300 Castlefield Avenue. The site plan for this property has been approved by the City and the Ontario Municipal Board. Within the site, there are two ground/pylons signs proposed: one along Caledonia, immediately south of the most southern access; and, one at the northwest corner of Castlefield and Ronald.

Through the site plan approval process, the signage for this site, including the pylon signs, was subject to extensive and comprehensive review by City staff. It was not until City staff was satisfied with the site plan that the City's clearance was provided to the Ontario Municipal Board.

As the site plan has now been approved, Lowe's and CCD are moving forward with the development of the site. Two ground/pylon signs are proposed: one along Caledonia; and, one along Castlelfield at Ronald. Both signs are identical.

Attach ment-56

Signage Issue:

Section 17.2.5 of By-law 3369-79 regulates the ground signs proposed for this site. The sign by-law allows one ground sign for each frontage on the premises, provided each frontage abuts and arterial road. . We have been advised by City staff that the Sign by-law for the former City of York does not permit ground/pylons signs on properties that abut Castlefield, Ronald or Caledonia as they are not designated as "arterial roads" by the zoning by-law for the former City of York (By-law 1-83). Therefore, City staff advise that a sign variance is required to obtain the required permission for the construction of the two pylon signs along these streets.

It is intended that the proposed pylon signs will satisfy all other requirements of the sign by-law.

Rationale for the Proposed Sign Variance:

The development of the northeast quadrant of Castlefield and Caledonia has been comprehensively planned as a large retail centre with associated community facilities. The proposed pylon signs are an integral part of the development and are necessary to identify the retail facilities on the site, most specifically the Lowe's home improvement retail warehouse which is in the northern portion of the property, screened by the out parcels that front directly onto Castlefield and Caledonia.

It is important to recognize, as noted above, that the signage proposed for the store was considered through the City's site plan approval process. Inherent in the City's approval of the site plan is appropriateness of the proposed signage.

In support of this application, enclosed, please find:

- Four copies of the proposed signage details;
- A certified cheque in the amount of \$662.44 made payable to the City of Toronto for the application fee; and,
- The completed application sign by-law variance form.

Additional Information:

City staff has requested that we confirm that the ground/pylon sign proposed at the northwest corner of Castlefield and Ronald is outside of the daylight triangle, as defined by Section 15.1.6 of the Sign By-law.

Enclosed, please find three copies of a portion of the approved site plan that has been dimensioned that clearly shows that the ground/pylon sign is outside of the daylight triangle.

Attachment -5c



As you have indicated to us the application review and processing requirements of the City, we hereby request that this application be considered by Community Council on January 15, 2008.

In the event that you have any questions, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned immediately.

Regards,

Mark G. Bales, MCIP, RPP

Mak L. Doles.

Enclosure