

Date: January 13, 2009

To: Toronto & East York Community Council,

Re: Request to introduce new item – 82 Robert Street - City to appeal Committee of Adjustment decision at the Ontario Municipal Board

I am writing to request that City Council direct the City Solicitor to file an appeal with the Ontario Municipal Board with regards to the Committee of Adjustment's decision to approve the application for 82 Robert Street on January 7, 2009 (Please find the decision attached.)

This matter was strongly opposed by many in the local community, including the Harbord Village Residents Association, which fears that the current plans for 82 Robert Street threaten the much-valued heritage characteristics of the neighbourhood. This property is currently listed in the Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties. It also falls under the proposed Harbord Village Heritage Conservation District Plan Phase 2.

The application for 82 Robert Street is to alter the existing two-storey semi-detached dwelling by constructing a rear two-storey and three-storey addition. Although the community made efforts to work with the applicants on their proposal, their major concerns were unresolved. The applicants' plans for a third storey addition threaten the much-valued heritage characteristics of the neighbourhood. The proposed building is unacceptably large compared to other houses in the neighbourhood, and the current plans for 82 Robert Street will create a precedent that could destabilize the fragile interior of this Heritage neighbourhood.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That City Council direct the City Solicitor to file an appeal with the Ontario Municipal Board in support of refusal with regards to 82 Robert Street (Committee of Adjustment File Number: A0020/09TEY).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Adam Vaughan, Councillor
Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

