



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan

Date:	May 4, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Robert Freedman, Director, Urban Design
Wards:	Ward 19 Trinity-Spadina
Reference Number:	te10033

SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek City Council approval of the 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan. The plan has been prepared by the owner in compliance with the development approval provisions. The plan, which is included as Attachment 1 of this report, outlines the method by which the owner will commission public art in the publicly accessible, privately-owned area of the development site.

The development site is located in the area known as Liberty Village the neighbourhood is bounded at the north by King Street West, at the west by Dufferin Street, at the south by the Gardiner Expressway, at the east by Strachan Avenue and the northeast by the Canadian Pacific railway tracks. The property at 125 Western Battery Road is in the area known as East Liberty Village.

The 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan provides a framework for a public art commission in the proposed location. The attached plan meets the objectives of the City Planning Percent for the Public Art Program and is supported by the Toronto Public Art Commission.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Planning Division recommends that:

1. City Council approve the 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan, attached to the report dated May 4, 2010, from the Director, Urban Design.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

In accordance with the August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000 City Council approved an Official Plan Amendment and Rezoning and Draft Plan of Subdivision the site referred to as Block 6 (125 Western Battery Road). The subsequent Section 37 Agreement, dated August 1, 2000, a public art commitment was secured for this site. As outlined in the public art provisions, the owner has options to commission public art on or off site.

The applicant has chosen the option to commission on-site public art. The owner is required to produce a public art plan for review by City Planning staff and its advisory panel, the Toronto Public Art Commission. Initial meetings were held with the owner team and urban design staff to discuss public art site potentials. On April 27th, 2010, the owner representatives made a presentation to the Toronto Public Art Commission at which time a recommendation was made for the approval of the 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

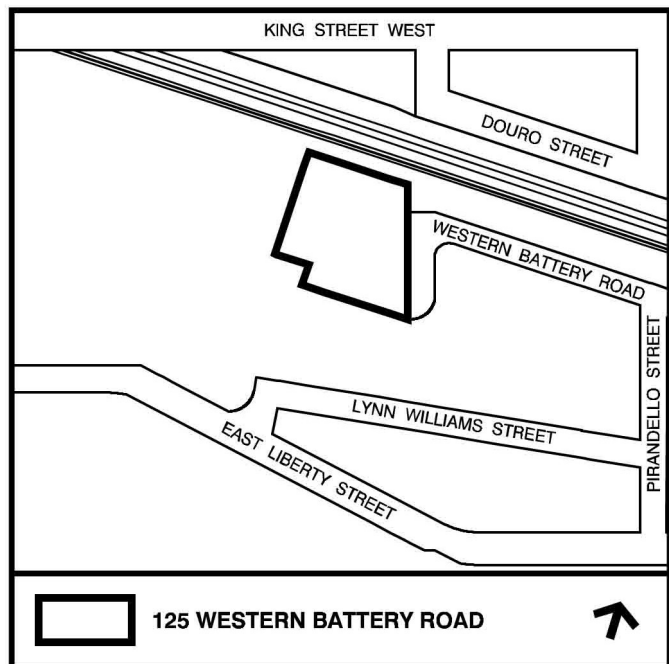
The owner and City Planning staff met to discuss the public art process and to identify the public art site potentials. The attached public art plan outlines the artist selection process. There will be a jury comprised of a majority of art experts, two owner representatives and a ward representative. The public art plan also identifies four artists who have been invited to compete on this project.

The art budget identified in the public art plan is based on a preliminary estimate that will be confirmed in a process as outlined in the Section 37 Agreement.

COMMENTS

The 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan provides an introduction to the project, the team and introduces the background to the public art provisions.

The public art objectives are addressed for this on-site program, with a primary focus on the private property at the open plaza area in the southeast corner of the site where Western Battery Road bends. The secondary site which will be explored (pending budget allocations) on the first floor glazing on the south and most westerly end of the building.



The 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan meets the City's objectives for the provision of public art in private development, is in accordance with the City Planning Percent for the Public Art Program, and is supported by the Toronto Public Art Commission. Upon City Council approval the owner will commence the artist competition as scheduled in the attached plan.

We look forward to the results of the public art competition.

CONTACT

Lara Tarlo
Urban Designer
Tel. No. 416 338-1132
Fax No. 416 392-1744
E-mail: ltarlo@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Robert Freedman
Director, Urban Design
City Planning Division

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: 125 Western Battery Road - Public Art Plan