

Hérons Hill Public Art Plan - 2025 Sheppard Avenue East

Date:	May 2, 2011
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Robert Freedman, Director, Urban Design
Wards:	Ward 33 Don Valley East
Reference Number:	ny11026

SUMMARY

This report seeks City Council’s approval of the Herons Hill Public Art Plan. The plan has been prepared by the owner in compliance with the development approval provisions. The Plan, included as Attachment 1 to this report, outlines the method by which the owner will commission public art in a publicly-accessible, privately-owned area of the development site.

The Herons Hill residential condominium development site is located at 2025 Sheppard Avenue East, on the southeast corner of the intersection of Sheppard Avenue East and Yorkland Road.



The Herons Hill Public Art Plan provides a framework for a public art commission on the proposed development site. The attached Public Art Plan meets the objectives of the City Planning Percent for the Public Art Program and is supported by the Toronto Public Art Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Planning Division recommends that:

1. City Council approve the Herons Hill Public Art Plan – 2025 Sheppard Avenue East attached to the report dated May 2, 2011, from the Director, Urban Design.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

In accordance with the OMB approval of an Official Plan Amendment and Rezoning for the site known as 2025, 2035 and 2045 Sheppard Avenue East, the Section 37 Agreement, dated November 7, 2007, secured a public art commitment for this site. As outlined in the public art provisions of this Agreement, the owner has options to commission public art on or off-site.

The owner 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 and City Planning Staff to discuss potential sites for public art. On April 27th, 2011, the owner presented the attached Herons Hill Public Art Plan to the Toronto Public Art Commission, which subsequently recommended its approval.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The owner and City Planning Staff met to discuss the public art process and to identify appropriate locations for on-site public art. The attached Public Art Plan outlines the artist selection process. There will be a jury comprised of art experts including a ward representative and two owner representatives. The Public Art Plan identifies ten artists/artist teams that are to be considered. From that list, the owner will choose five artists/artist teams for the juried competition.

The Public Art Plan is based on a \$500,000 budget as outlined in the Section 37 Agreement.

COMMENTS

The Herons Hill Public Art Plan provides an introduction to the project, the team and introduces the background to the public art provisions.

The Plan proposes to locate public art on privately-owned, publicly-accessible land at a visually prominent portion of the development site. The art will be located along the site's Yorkland Road frontage, south of the intersection of Yorkland Road and Sheppard Avenue. The public art site is located at the edge of a landscaped open space that bisects the development site. The selected site's visibility to Yorkland Road is enhanced by the Staff report for action Herons Hill Public Art Plan - 2025 Sheppard Avenue East

site topography and the alignment of Yorkland Road. The location reinforces the City's objective to maximize public accessibility and visibility of artwork through the Public Art Plan.

The owner proposes an invitational competition process for five artists to develop proposals. The proposals will be reviewed by a jury that includes owner representatives, members of the arts community and a ward representative.

At its meeting on April 27, 2011, the Toronto Public Art Commission endorsed the Plan with recommendations that the public art be integrated with the site's landscape design and that the public art consultant develop criteria for the artist short-list process. The owner has agreed to these suggestions and has revised the Plan to reflect these recommendations.

The Herons Hill Public Art Plan meets the City's objectives for the provision of public art in private development and is in accordance with the City's Planning Percent for the Public Art Program. 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

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SIGNATURE

Robert Freedman
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City Planning Division

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Herons Hill Public Art Plan – 2025 Sheppard Avenue East

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