

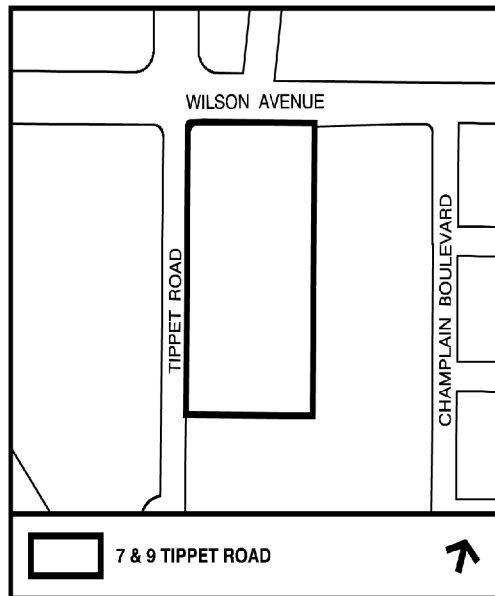
**Gramercy Park Development - 525 Wilson Avenue -
Public Art Plan**

Date:	May 2, 2011
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Robert Freedman, Director, Urban Design
Wards:	Ward 10 York Centre
Reference Number:	ny11025

SUMMARY

This report seeks City Council’s approval of the Gramercy Park Development – 525 Wilson Avenue – 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 publicly-accessible, privately-owned areas of the development site.

The Gramercy Park Development site is located at 525 Wilson Avenue on the southeast corner of the intersection of Wilson Avenue and Tippet Road, a block east of the Wilson Subway Station. The proposed residential condominium was formerly identified as 7 and 9 Tippet Road.



The Gramercy Park Development – 525 Wilson Avenue - 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.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Planning Division recommends that:

1. City Council approve the Gramercy Park Development - 525 Wilson Avenue - Public Art Plan 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 approved Zoning By-law Amendment for the site (previously identified as 7 and 9 Tippet Road), a public art commitment is being secured through a Section 37 Agreement for this development. The Section 37 Agreement is currently awaiting execution by the applicant before it can be registered. As outlined in the public art provisions of the 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 Gramercy Park Development - 525 Wilson Avenue - 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 two owner representatives and a ward representative. The Public Art Plan also identifies five artists who have been invited to compete on this project.

The Public Art Plan is based on a \$300,000 budget as outlined in the Section 37 Agreement.

COMMENTS

The Gramercy Park Development - 525 Wilson Avenue - Public Art Plan provides an introduction to the project, the team and introduces the background to the public art provisions.

The objective to improve the pedestrian environment along Wilson Avenue is addressed by the on-site public art program, with two primary art sites, the 2-storey breezeway

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entrance to the site and the northwest corner of the site. Secondary sites which will be explored pending budget allocations include the building columns and the site furniture along the Wilson Avenue frontage. The attached Public Art Plan addresses suggestions made by the Toronto Public Art Committee regarding public art sites and emphasis.

The Gramercy Park Development - 525 Wilson Avenue - Public Art Plan meets the City's objectives for the provision of public art in private development, is in accordance with the City's 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

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SIGNATURE

Robert Freedman
Director, Urban Design
City Planning Division

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Gramercy Park Development - 525 Wilson Avenue - Public Art Plan

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