3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan

Date:       July 19, 2011
To:         North York Community Council
From:       Robert Freedman, Director, Urban Design
Wards:      Ward 15 Eglinton Lawrence
Reference Number: ny11036

SUMMARY

This report seeks City Council’s approval of the 3180 Bathurst Street 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 site is located at 3180 Bathurst Street on the southwest corner of Bathurst Street and Saranac Boulevard.

The 3180 Bathurst Street 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 3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan attached to the report dated July 19, 2011 from the Director, Urban Design.

Staff report for action –3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan
FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

In accordance with the August 25, 2010 City Council decision for the site, a public art commitment is being secured through a Section 37 Agreement for this development. The applicant appealed the rezoning application to the OMB, and the Board has issued its decision on the rezoning, but has withheld its order pending resolution of the site plan and the Section 37 Agreement. The Section 37 Agreement is currently being prepared and will need to be executed 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 locations for public art. On June 22, 2011, the owner presented the attached 3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan to the Toronto Public Art Commission, which subsequently recommended its approval.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The attached Public Art Plan outlines the artist selection process. There will be a jury comprised of art experts including one owner representative and a ward representative. The Public Art Plan also identifies that an open public art competition would be conducted on behalf of this project.

The Public Art Plan is based on a $250,000 budget. The budget is estimated by the owner as being equivalent to the public art contribution identified in Council’s conditions of approval. The Public Art Plan also indicates the owner will contribute the difference between estimated budget and actual value of the public art contribution based on a half percent of the gross construction cost to a pooled fund for public art to be located within Ward 15.

COMMENTS

The 3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan provides an introduction to the project, the team and provides the background to the public art provisions.

The objective to improve the pedestrian environment along Bathurst Street is addressed by the on-site public art program, with a primary art site on the Bathurst Street frontage complemented by a secondary site at the main building entrance to the residential building on Saranac Boulevard.
The 3180 Bathurst Street - 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
Leo deSorcy  
Manager, Urban Design  
City Planning Division  
Tel. No.  416 395-7139  
Fax No.  416 395-7155  
E-mail:  ldesorcy@toronto.ca

Jane Perdue  
Public Art Coordinator  
City Planning Division  
Tel. No.  416 392-1304  
Fax No.  416 392-1744  
E-mail:  jperdue@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

______________________________
Robert Freedman  
Director, Urban Design  
City Planning Division

ATTACHMENT
Attachment 1: 3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan
Attachment 1: 3180 Bathurst Street - Public Art Plan