

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM41.23	ACTION			Ward:27
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Expression of Interest in the Provincial Lands at 26 Grenville Street and 27 Grosvenor Street - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to request a meeting with Infrastructure Ontario to discuss options for developing the site at 26 Grenville Street and 27 Grosvenor Street with the purpose of building affordable housing units and cultural space.
2. City Council direct the City Manager to submit an offer to purchase for 26 Grenville Street and 27 Grosvenor Street for the value of \$1.00, in recognition of the Province of Ontario's technical requirements for acknowledging the City of Toronto's expressed interest in the property.

Summary

The Province of Ontario, through its agency Infrastructure Ontario, is presently working towards the sale of property located at the municipal addresses 26 Grenville Street and 27 Grosvenor Street in Toronto. Recently, the Province commissioned Urban Strategies to conduct an Optimal Use study, which identified residential uses as the most appropriate development for this site.

The City of Toronto and the Government of Ontario have a mandate to create affordable housing in mixed-use neighbourhoods where people can thrive and access the services and employment they need. Access to affordable housing is a known indicator of quality of life and a social determinant of health. However, Ontario is in a deficit of affordable housing for its residents. There are over 150,000 families and individuals waiting for social housing in Ontario, and more than half of these households are in Toronto.

On July 16, 2013, a letter was sent to the Honourable Linda Jeffry, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of Infrastructure. This letter was signed by the area Ward City Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, Affordable Housing

Committee Chair City Councillor Ana Bailão, Habitat for Humanity Chief Executive Officer Ene Underwood, Kehilla Residential Program Executive Director Nancy Singer, Senator Art Eggleton, and Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto Senior Pastor Reverend Brent Hawkes. This letter requested a meeting to discuss the potential for these properties to be used for affordable housing.

This request for a meeting has not been answered.

(Submitted to City Council on November 13 and 14, 2013 as MM41.23)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM41.23