

**Councillor John Parker**

Toronto City Council  
Ward 26-Don Valley West

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**To: North York Community Council****Date: Tuesday 25 February 2014****Re: 262 Bessborough Drive – Request for representation on appeal to OMB**

Dear colleagues,

With this letter I seek permission to introduce a motion at today's meeting to the following effect:

1. *That Council authorize the City Solicitor and appropriate staff to attend the Ontario Municipal Board Hearing of the appeals from Committee of Adjustment Files B39/13NY, A471/13NY, A472/13NY and A473/13NY and to retain outside consultants as necessary in order to uphold the Committee of Adjustment's refusal of the applications.*

Here's why:

The applicant has applied to sever the property at 262 Bessborough Drive into three residential lots. Lot 1 and 3 would be redeveloped with a new two-storey dwelling on each lot. Lot 2 would contain a portion of the existing heritage building to be re-located with proposed renovations and additions. The applications were refused by the Committee of Adjustment on January 8, 2014, and have subsequently been appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board. A hearing has been scheduled for May 12, 2014.

The subject property is included on the City of Toronto's Inventory of Heritage Properties and has been designated by Council under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. It contains a building historically known as the Thomas G. Elgie House and is located in the Leaside Community of North York. The "specific location, setback and orientation" of the Thomas G. Elgie House are listed as one of the heritage attributes of the property in the Reasons for Designation, with particular reference to "the west side of Bessborough Drive, north of Parkhurst, where the east side elevation of the house faces the street and is viewed across a landscaped setting from Bessborough". Heritage Preservation Services staff does not support the relocation of the farmhouse as it does not have necessary regard for the Reasons for Designation. It is the opinion of staff that the amount of alteration proposed will negatively impact the integrity of the heritage attributes of this important heritage resource.

Respectfully,



John Parker  
Toronto City Councillor  
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