

43 Gerrard Street West Public Art Plan

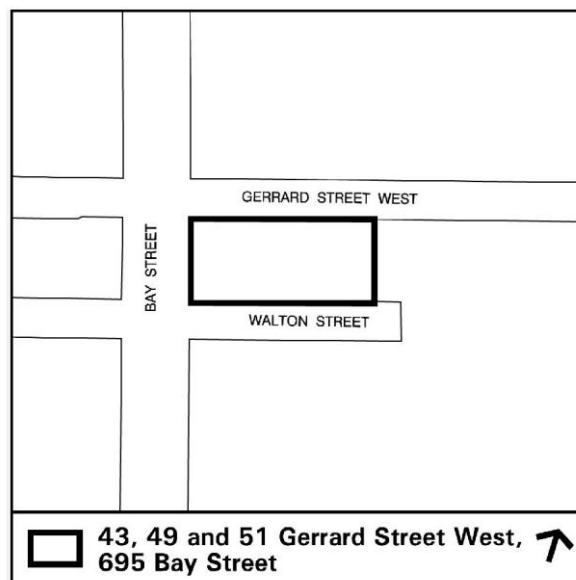
Date:	July 28, 2015
To:	Toronto East York Community Council
From:	Director, Urban Design, City Planning Division
Wards:	Ward 27 – Toronto Centre-Rosedale
Reference Number:	P:\2015\Cluster B\PLN\TEYCC\TE15097

SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek City Council approval of the 43 Gerrard Street West Public Art Plan. The plan, which is included as Attachment 1 of this report, outlines the method by which the owner will commission public art on a publicly-accessible, privately-owned area of the development site.

This public art plan provides a framework and description of the commissioning of public art including the development overview; project team; public art objectives; art location description; selection process; artist candidates; jury composition; estimated public art budget and the schedule.

The attached plan meets the objectives of City Planning's Percent for Public Art Guidelines and is supported by the Toronto Public Art Commission.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Planning Division recommends that:

1. City Council approve the 43 Gerrard Street West Public Art Plan as attached (Attachment 1) to the report dated July 28, 2015, from the Director, Urban Design.

Financial Impact

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

DECISION HISTORY

The development is sited at the southeast corner of Bay Street and Gerrard Street West with Walton Street to the south.

Related reports:

The application is for a mixed-use development resulting in an Official Plan and Zoning Amendment.

At its meeting on June 10, 2014 City Council adopted this item with amendments. This item was considered by Toronto and East York Community Council on May 13, 2014 and adopted with amendments.

See also By-law 566-2014

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/bylaws/2014/law0566.pdf>

One of the recommendations for community benefits secured in the Section 37 Agreement includes a public art contribution of \$250,000 to be used for public art on the site.

The Public Art Commission recommended approval of the Public Art Plan at its meeting on June 23, 2015.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The proposed 43-storey mixed-use development is a 38-storey tower and 5-storey podium with retail at-grade with underground parking and servicing at Walton Street. The site is within the boundaries of the Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area.

The surrounding uses are College Park, a mixed-use development to the north, abutting the subject property the Eaton Chelsea Hotel to the east, a mid-rise office building to the south and to the west a residential condominium and office building as well as the Hospital for Sick Children research building.

The development provides for a mid-block connection that runs north/south between Gerrard Street West and Walton Street. Pedestrians will be using this access as there is a strong desire line that will be further reinforced with a three storey-high opening forming a gateway passage for pedestrians and vehicular passenger drop off.

The proposed location for the art site is along the north/south passageway of the mid-block connection. The location of the art site will be visible to passersby on Gerrard Street West by pedestrians using the passageway.

The owner has proposed an invitational two-stage competition process, with the first stage; Expression of Interest and Interviews resulting in a short list of artists who will prepare detailed concepts to be reviewed by a jury. This jury is composed of a representative of the Owner or it's nominated representative, two independent art experts of whom one is an artist and one is a resident of the ward. The two independent jury members will be drawn from a pool listed in the Public Art Plan.

This art selection process, with a majority of independent art experts is in accordance with the City's Percent for Public Art Guidelines.

The identified art site requires integration and coordination with the building fabric. As a result, the art budget will be over and above the base building cost. The art budget will be used as an upgrade to the façade at Gerrard Street West and along the north/south passageway leading to Walton Street.

As per the Section 37 Agreement the owner has identified a budget of \$250,000.00 inclusive.

This proposal is supported by staff and was presented to the Public Art Commission which recommended approval at its meeting on June 23, 2015.

COMMENTS

The 43 Gerrard Street West Public Art Plan is in compliance with the City's objectives for the provision of public art in private development. This on-site program is in accordance with the City Planning Percent for the Public Art Program, and is supported by the Toronto Public Art Commission. Upon City Council's approval, the owner will commence with the artist selection process as scheduled in the attached plan.

We look forward to the results of the public art competition.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 43 Gerrard Street West Public Art Plan

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