

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM2.20	ACTION			Ward: 14
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Preservation of the Hearn Generating Station - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Mayor John Tory

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Mayor John Tory, recommends that:

1. City Council reaffirm the City's interest in the protection and preservation of the Hearn Generating Station at 440 Unwin Avenue, Toronto.
2. City Council direct the Senior Manager, Heritage Preservation Services to report on the evaluation of the property at 440 Unwin Avenue (the Hearn Generating Station) under Ontario Regulation 9/06, the criteria prescribed for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, to the February 27, 2019 meeting of the Toronto Preservation Board and the March 27 and 28, 2019 meeting of City Council.

Summary

At its meeting held on May 21, 22 and 23, 2003, Toronto City Council recommended that the Hearn Generating Station, which is owned by Ontario Power Generation be added to the City's Inventory of Heritage Properties (now known as the Heritage Register) as a significant heritage resource for architectural and contextual reasons. However, provincial heritage properties and prescribed public bodies, including Ontario Power Generation, are exempt from designation by the City.

At subsequent meetings of Toronto City Council in 2010 and 2017, Toronto City Council reaffirmed its interest in the protection and preservation of the Hearn Generating Station asked that the Province consult the City as part any review, sale or transfer process, in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Conservation of Provincial Heritage Properties. Furthermore, City Council requested the Ontario Power Generation that prior to exercising its right to demolish the property, a public meeting be held and that Ontario Power Generation consult with the Ward Councillor, the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, the Senior Manager, Heritage Preservation Services, the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture and Waterfront Toronto with respect to alternatives to demolition of this significant heritage property, should demolition be contemplated.

The City of Toronto has recently become aware that ownership of the Hearn Generating Station at 440 Unwin Avenue has been transferred outside of the Province. This Motion reaffirms City Council's interest in the protection and long-term conservation of the Hearn Generating Station, and directs the appropriate city staff to bring forward recommendations with respect to the heritage designation of the property to the next cycle of Committee and Council. The City will be able to designate the property under Part IV Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act since it is now privately owned. As a listed heritage property, the owner is required to give the City a notice of intention to demolish the property and submit prescribed application material. The City has 60 days from a complete application being received to designate the property and protect it from demolition.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM2.20