

HARBORD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Box 68522, 360A Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1X1



To: Members, Heritage Preservation Board
Re: PB 7.9

June 10, 2019.

Harbord Village Residents' Association urges the Preservation Board to support the staff recommendation to create a Heritage Survey programme.

As home to two Heritage Conservation Districts, we have had many years of experience with the value of heritage protection which permits change while protecting streetscape. We work closely with the staff of HPS on both our district plans and on larger projects with significant heritage components. We have found heritage protection preserves both historic architectural quality and acquaints communities with their cultural history. Further, it defines a desirable human scale for new development in the City. In our experience, this has not stood in the way of intensification, but has actually improved the projects we have completed. Mirvish Village, Four Corners, 1 Spadina viewshed, Sussex Spadina residence.... It is a list the City should be proud of. And includes the Bloor Street United approval, also on this agenda.

We share the dismay of many Torontonians caused by the inadvertent and unnecessary loss of heritage sites—for example Stollery's and the BMO Bank at Yonge and Roselawn, and other fine individual buildings across the City.

Once implemented, this heritage survey programme will, for the first time, provide a City-side inventory of both individual and neighbourhood heritage assets, so such lapses are significantly less likely to occur. It will also clear the backlog and should provide fresh impetus for heritage initiatives.

Beyond the identification of heritage built form this new policy embraces a significant public engagement vision. This will build in community support as well as strengthening the city by giving today's residents knowledge of the historic development of their City and its inhabitants.

We see resident participation as a keystone principle in the work of the City, and to see it so well described is more than welcome.

Respectfully,

Sue Dexter, Board Member,
Harbord Village Residents' Association,
97 Willcocks St.

cell: 416-985-0222
landline: 416-964-5639

Toronto, Ont. M5S1C9