

826-834 Yonge Street and 2-8 Cumberland Street Public Art Plan

Date: February 22, 2019
To: Toronto East York Community Council
From: Director, Urban Design
Wards: Ward 11 - University - Rosedale

Planning Application Number: *15 114759 STE 27 OZ*

SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek City Council approval of 826-834 Yonge Street and 2-8 Cumberland Street 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 area of the development site.

The Public Art Plan provides a framework and description of the commissioning of public art including; introduction; project team; Section 37 agreement reference; public art objectives; public art location; budget; selection process; artist candidates; jury composition and schedule.

The attached plan meets the objectives of the 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 826-834 Yonge Street and 2-8 Cumberland Street Public Art Plan as attached (Attachment 1) to the report dated February 22, 2019 from the Director, Urban Design.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommendations in this report have no financial impact.

PROPOSAL

The development site is at 826-834 Yonge Street and 2-8 Cumberland, fronting Yonge and Cumberland with a proposed extension and widening of the laneway and walkway that abuts the west side of the site connecting Yorkville Street and Cumberland Street. The proposal is a 51-storey mixed-use building with retail uses on the ground and second floors and residential uses above.

The development review process has resulted in a commitment to public art, resulting in the Public Art Plan (Attachment 1).

APPLICATION BACKGROUND

City Council on April 26, 27 and 28, 2017 adopted the 826-834 Yonge Street and 2-8 Cumberland Street Zoning Amendment Application - Final Report

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.TE23.8>

The subsequent Section 37 agreement dated April 25, 2018 was signed between the "Owner" and the "City". Schedule "E" Public Art Contribution of the agreement under 1.3 states that "The Owner agrees that it will make a contribution " The Public Art Contribution") equal to FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) subject to upwards indexing to the City in accordance with the Public Art Program as set forth in Schedule "E". The owner with the City have determined that the public art contribution will be on the subject site in a privately-owned, publically accessible area of the subject site.

Toronto Official Plan

This application has been reviewed against the policies of the City of Toronto Official Plan as follows:

The City of Toronto Official Plan can be found here: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/official-plan-guidelines/official-plan/>.

Chapter 3 - Building a Successful City

Section 3.1.4 Public Art

Policy 1. e) encouraging the inclusion of public art in all significant private sector developments across the City.

COMMENTS

The proposed public art site will be located in a prominent location, visually and publically accessible on the west side of the building adjacent to the proposed walkway connecting Yorkville and Cumberland in the area designated as privately owned publically-accessible open space (POPS). The proposed art location is supported by City Planning staff and the Toronto Public Art Commission.

An artist will be selected through a two-stage competition process. Stage 1: Request for Expression of Interest and Interview, resulting in the selection of four artists short listed. Stage 2: Finalist Brief, competition with concepts reviewed and selected by a jury.

The artist will be selected by a three (3) person jury composition, composed of two (2) independent art experts and one (1) resident of the Ward and Owner representative. The art selection process, with majority art experts is in keeping with the City's Percent for Public Art Guidelines.

In accordance with City policy, City Planning continues to encourage the developer to seek artistic excellence and expertise with broad representation from the art community in the selection of artists and jury members.

The estimated budget allocation for the art, administration and maintenance is described in the public art plan which is in compliance with the City's Percent for Public Art Guidelines.

This proposal is supported by City Planning staff and was presented to the Toronto Public Art Commission at its meeting on October 24, 2018, which recommended approval of the proposed plan.

Conclusion

826-834 Yonge Street and 2-8 Cumberland Street – Public Art Plan is in compliance with the City's objectives for the provision of public art associated with development. This on-site program is in accordance with the City Planning Percent for 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 proposal.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Lorna Day, Director Urban Design
City Planning Division

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Public Art Plan