

688 Dundas Street East Public Art Plan

Date: September 16, 2019
To: Toronto East York Community Council
From: Director, Urban Design
Wards: Ward 13 - Toronto Centre

Planning Application Number: 15 127808 STE 28 OZ

SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek City Council approval of 688 Dundas Street East 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 45 agreement reference; public art objectives; public art location; public art location selection rationale; planning criteria; 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 688 Dundas Street East Public Art Plan as attached (Attachment 1) to the report dated September 16, 2019 from the Director, Urban Design.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommendations in this report have no financial impact.

PROPOSAL

The development site is at 688 Dundas Street East, fronting River Street and Dundas Street East. The proposal is for two buildings, a 32-storey and 11 storey mid-rise

building. Located within the redevelopment area of the third phase of Regent Park, this site forms the gateway into the development from the east, providing a direct physical and visual opportunity for public art.

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

APPLICATION BACKGROUND

Notice of Minor variance/permission (Section 45 of the Planning Act) To construct two residential towers, 32-storeys (Building A) and 11-storeys (Building B) respectively, on top of a shared three-storey mixed-use podium and three-levels of below grade parking within Block 17 South of the Regent Park Redevelopment Plan. Specifically, the lands are located at the north-west corner of Dundas Street East and River Street. A Public Hearing was held on September 26, 2018.

The Minor Variance Application was Approved on Conditions including Appendix 1 Section (45) provisions (a) "The Owner will commission Public Art work equal in value to the Public Art Contribution of \$250,000, and such works will be located upon the Site in accordance with the City of Toronto, City Planning's Percent for Public Art Program requirements and Guidelines and to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning."

City Council on March 20, 2014 adopted Final Report - 325 Gerrard Street East - Official Plan Amendment and Zoning Amendment, Residential Demolition Control Applications (Phases 3-5)

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.TE30.10>

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, publically accessible from Dundas Street East. 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 three artists short listed. Stage 2: Finalist Brief, competition with concepts reviewed and selected by a jury.

The artist will be selected by a five (5) person jury composed of three (3) 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 June 19, 2019 which recommended approval of the proposed plan.

Conclusion

688 Dundas Street East – 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 completion.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Lorna Day, Director Urban Design
City Planning Division

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Public Art Plan