
City Council

Notice of Motion

MM27.12	ACTION			Ward: All
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Planning Application Screening and the Heritage Review Process - by Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Mayor John Tory

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Housing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Mayor John Tory, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to conduct a review of heritage screening and evaluation within the context of all planning applications to ensure the early identification of properties with cultural heritage value or interest and timely interim protection while a property is undergoing consideration for heritage designation.

Summary

On the morning of November 30, 2020, a historic stone cottage in Mimico was demolished just hours before the Toronto Preservation Board was set to consider the address for inclusion on the City's Heritage Register and designation under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The property had been under consideration for a minor variance at the Etobicoke York Committee of Adjustment but the hearing was deferred pending a heritage evaluation of the existing building.

Despite deferral of the minor variance application, a demolition permit was legally obtained and all of the relevant City processes were followed.

Early identification of properties with cultural heritage value that are proposed for demolition within planning applications presents a unique challenge for timely and effective heritage protection and conservation. This Motion requests a review of all planning application processes to ensure that there is an effective screening tool in place to identify properties with potential heritage value early in the application process and a strategy to provide timely interim protection while a property is undergoing a heritage review.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM27.12