TORONTO

REPORT FOR ACTION

Non-Residential/Residential Demolition Application – 1409 Gerrard Street East

Date: September 8, 2020

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director and Deputy Chief Building Official, Toronto Building

Wards: Ward 14 (Toronto - Danforth)

SUMMARY

This staff report is regarding a matter for which the Toronto and East York Community Council has delegated authority to make a final decision.

In accordance with city-wide residential demolition control under the Toronto Municipal Code Ch.363, under the authority of Section 33 of the Planning Act, the application for the demolition of an existing mixed use building with commercial at grade and residential above is located at 1409 Gerrard St E (Application No. 20-172173 DEM) is being referred to the Toronto and East York Community Council for consideration to refuse or grant the application, including any conditions, if any, to be attached to the permit application because a building permit has not been issued for a replacement building.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director and Deputy Chief Building Official, Toronto Building, Toronto and East York District recommends that the Toronto and East York Community Council give consideration to the demolition application and decide to:

- 1. Refuse the application to demolish these buildings because there is no permit to replace the building on the site at this time; or
- Approve the application to demolish these buildings without any conditions; or
- 3. Approve the application to demolish these buildings with the following conditions:
- a) That construction fences be erected in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Code, Chapter 363, Article 7, if deemed appropriate by the Chief Building Official;

- b) That all debris and rubble be removed immediately after demolition;
- c) That sod be laid on the site and that the site be maintained free of garbage and weeds, in accordance with the Municipal Code Chapter 629-10, paragraph B and 629-11; and
- d) That any holes on the property are backfilled with clean fill.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommendations in this report have no financial impact.

DECISION HISTORY

There is no decision history for this property.

COMMENTS

On July 30th 2020, an application was submitted to demolish the existing mixed use (commercial at grade, residential above) at 1409 Gerrard St E.

A pre-application consultation for a 3-storey mixed use building comprised of retail and 1 dwelling unit at grade with an additional 4 dwelling units above had occurred on June 9th 2020.

The demolition permit is required in order to maintain the construction schedule. The property at its current state is in very poor condition and potentially at risk for squatters.

The existing building is not currently on the list of designated historical buildings.

The land is not within a Toronto and Region Conservation Authority regulated area.

CONTACT

Imran Esmail, Manager, Plan Review (Acting). Toronto and East York District Tel.: (416) 396-7726 E-mail: lmran.Esmail@toronto.ca

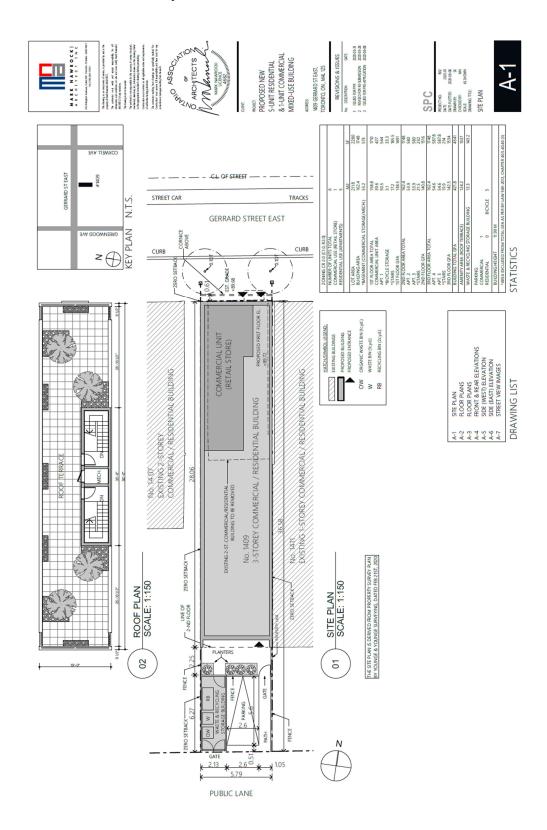
SIGNATURE

Kamal Gogna
Director & Deputy Chief Building Official, Toronto Building
Toronto and East York District

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Proposed Site Plan
- 2. Letter from Owner

Attachment 1: Proposed Site Plan



Attachment 2: Letter from owner

Re: Application Number: 20 172173 DEM 00 DM -- 1409 GERRARD ST E

Dear Mr Imran Esmail, P.Eng

We are the owners of 1409 Gerrard St East. The property was acquired by our Limited Partnership on March 5, 2020. This letter explains our intended development and why we are seeking a standalone demolition permit in advance of obtaining the building permit.

The project will consist of five residential rental apartments and one at-grade commercial/retail unit. We are designing the project to fully comply with the existing zoning and will not be seeking any amendments or minor variance to increase FSI beyond our as-of-right allowable density.

We understand the City of Toronto is fully supportive of developers building more rental apartments in our transit-dense urban communities. At only three stories, this project fits perfectly with the streetscape, and its scope is small enough that it does not cause multi-year construction debris, noise and traffic nuisances to the neighbourhood.

I have attached renderings prepared by our architect which have already been submitted to the City of Toronto (for zoning certificate and PPR) in relation to our project. Based on advice from our architect and structural engineer, we don't plan to retain any of the above grade structure as part of the redevelopment.

As you know, the covid-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption, delays and shutdowns of various functions (including City of Toronto departments and approval processes) for prolonged periods, making it very difficult for small organizations such as ours to develop reasonable project timelines and secure construction trades.

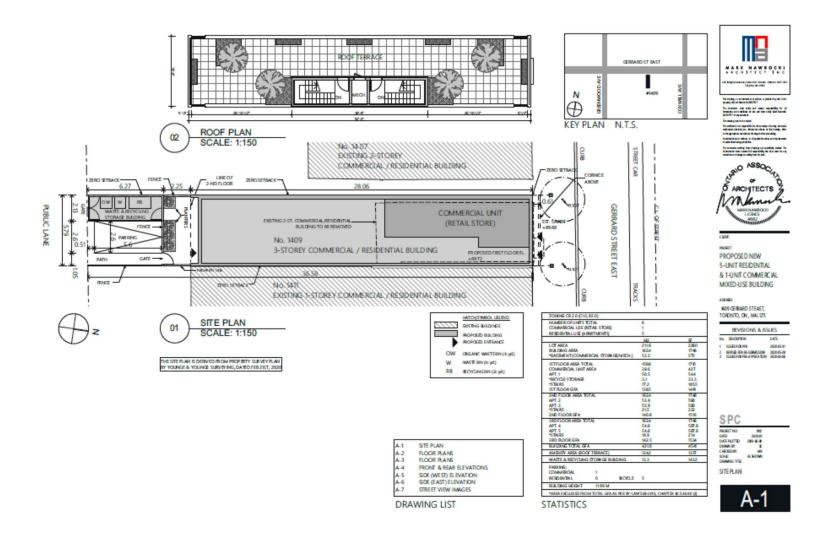
In particular, we are aware of the significant backlogs at the City of Toronto in obtaining hearings for the Committee of Adjustment, which will also impact our timeline to complete the SPA and obtain our building permit. We are continuing to move forward with our architect and consultants to the best of our ability but we know the timeline is largely out of our control.

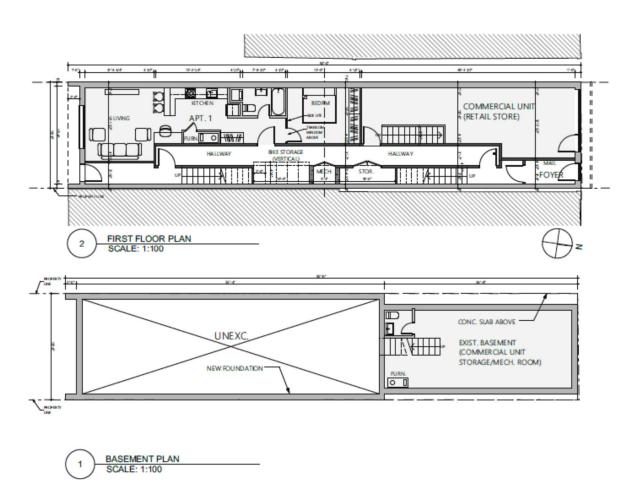
In the meantime, we believe the vacant building in its current physical form would represent a meaningful safety risk to the local community. The property is in very poor condition and therefore we don't plan to re-lease it until the redevelopment is complete.

In order to mitigate these consequences to the best of our ability, we are requesting that the demolition permit be approved so that we can secure the trades people and book the work to take place in an efficient manner so that we are not adding further delays to our project timeline.

Your help and consideration are greatly appreciated.

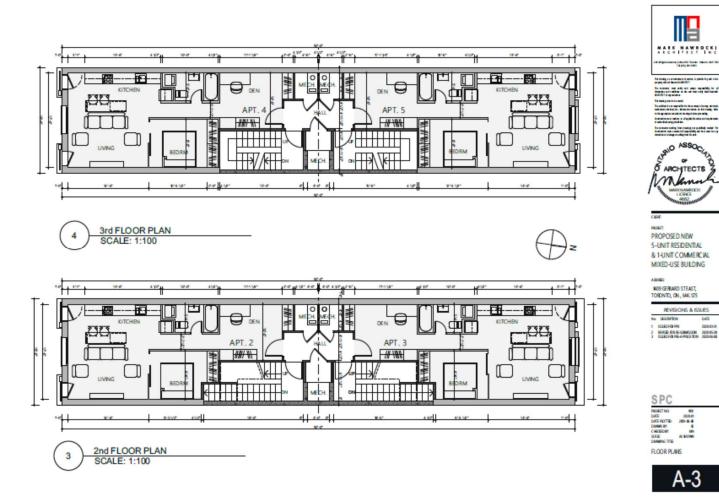
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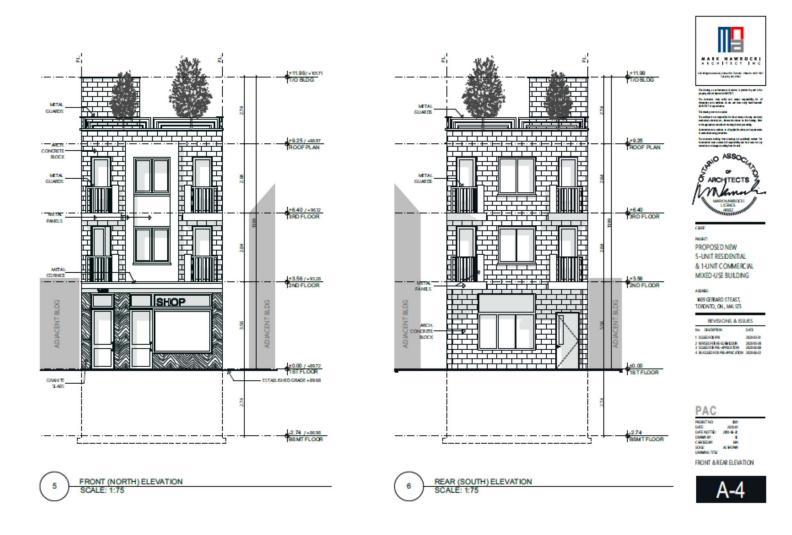


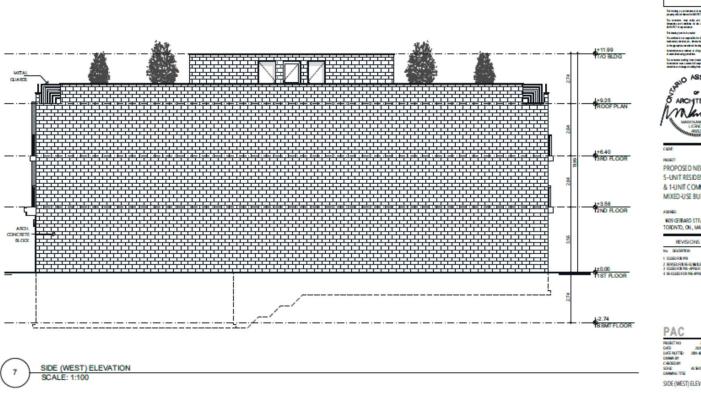


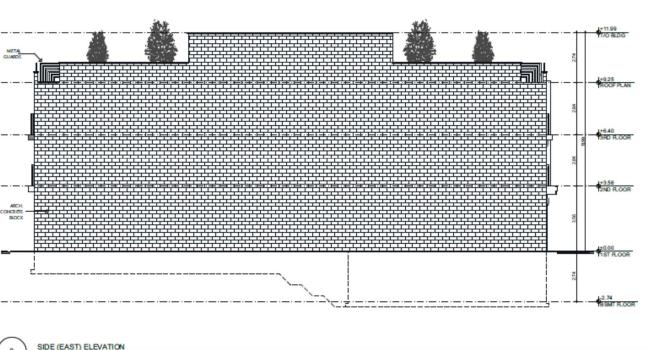


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SIDE (EAST) ELEVATION



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ROOFTOP TERRACE - WEST SIDE VIEW



ROOFTOP TERRACE - OUTDOOR AMENITY AREA



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