

January 19, 2021

To Planning and Housing Committee Chair and Members,

Re: Comments on PH20.2 – Study Work Program Update

The backlog of Planning and Heritage studies has reached an unsustainable number at a time Toronto is facing immense development pressure, demonstrating the need for additional resources to be allocated within the City Planning budget to move forward these report requests at an expedited and much more reasonable pace.

Many of the requests projected for completion past 2021 were made many years ago and the circumstances behind their request have grown in concern. Newer requests for study are often based on pressures that have been growing and are being faced in real time. Waiting another decade to complete these reports will miss the opportunity to shape new development while protecting necessary heritage assets in a comprehensive and organized fashion, giving certainty to the community and applicants on the future of the area.

I therefore recommend that the Planning and Housing Committee:

1. Requested the Chief Planner, Executive director, City Planning, to prepare a budget briefing note to the Budget Committee presenting the backlog of Planning and Heritage report requests and the necessary resources that would be required from the appropriate Reserve Fund, to address the backlog of planning and heritage report requests and provide scenarios for completing the backlog of requests within 3 years and within 5 years.

Further I would suggest that City Planning communicate with the proponents, local Councillor or community group, which initiated the report, the reason for the any upcoming delays to the schedule.

Thank you,



Councillor Mike Layton
Ward 11, University-Rosedale