

NOTICE OF MOTION

Prioritizing Ward 20 Listed Heritage Properties and Conserving the former GECO lands

Moved by: Councillor Parthi Kandavel

Seconded by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

SUMMARY:

Prioritizing Ward 20 Listed Heritage Properties

Summary:

Through the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* ("Bill 23") the Province of Ontario amended the Ontario Heritage and prescribed a deemed expiry date for properties undesignated properties included on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register. Properties Listed before January 1, 2023 will be deemed removed from the Register if they are not designated prior to January 1, 2027.

The conservation of the City's listed properties fosters civic and local community identity and pride, enhancing stewardship opportunities, and recognizes our collective history. This motion requests that City Planning staff review the following ten listed properties for potential municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act to ensure the conserve of these important sites, and would require appropriate consultation and engagement with property owners and the local city Councillor prior to recommendation.

Conserving the Former GECO Lands

Summary:

The General Engineering Company (Canada) Ltd. ("GECO") operated a top-secret munitions plant during the Second World War, located southeast from the corners of Warden Avenue and Civic Road in Scarborough, Ontario.

The plant comprised 346 acres, 172 buildings, and over four kilometers of tunnels. GECO employed twenty-one thousand patriotic Canadians — predominantly women — who risked their lives daily handling gunpowder and high explosives. These brave women filled over 256 million fuses for the Allied Forces. Scarborough's emblem, "Sc/C," which was etched onto every fuse, became a symbol of quality on battlefields around the world.

While altered, approximately twenty of the buildings along with underground tunnels associated with the former GECO facility remain. This motion recommends that City Planning evaluate the

former GECO lands under Ontario Regulation 9/06, the criteria prescribed for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, and report on recommendations to the Toronto Preservation Board on and Toronto City Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Prioritizing Ward 20 Listed Heritage Properties

1. City Council request the Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, to review the following Ward 20 properties for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, and following outreach to property owners, to report back with recommendations to the Toronto Preservation Board and City Council:

68	CHINE	DR
323	DANFORTH	RD
972	DANFORTH	RD
120	HIGHVIEW	AVE
27	HILL	CRES
1253	KINGSTON	RD
1355	KINGSTON	RD
1650	KINGSTON	RD
23	LAUREL	AVE
41	LAUREL	AVE
459	MIDLAND	AVE
42	SCARBORO	CRES
236	WARDEN	AVE

Conserving the Former GECO Lands

2. City Council request the Senior Manager, Heritage Planning to evaluate lands associated with the former General Engineering Company (Canada) Ltd. (“GECO”) within Ward 20 under Ontario Regulation 9/06, the criteria prescribed for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, and to report back with recommendations to the Toronto Preservation Board and City Council.