

From: Su Murdoch

Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 6:43 PM

To: cityclerks <cityclerks@barrie.ca>

Cc: Liam Munnoch <Liam.Munnoch@barrie.ca>; Clare Riepma <Clare.Riepma@barrie.ca>

Subject: CIP Plan Respecting Heritage Comment File D18-002-2024

Please find attached my written submission regarding the proposed *Community Improvement Plan Respecting Heritage Properties City-Wide FILE D18-002-2024*.

This is in anticipation of the Public Meeting being held on June 12, 2024.

Su Murdoch

Comments on the *Draft Community Improvement Plan Respecting Heritage Properties City-Wide*: City of Barrie File D18-002-2024

Submitted to the Affordability Committee by Su Murdoch, 47 Rodney Street, Barrie, on June 3, 2024, in anticipation of the Public Meeting scheduled for June 12, 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed *Community Improvement Plan Respecting Heritage Properties City-Wide*, also known as the *Conservation of Built Heritage Community Improvement Plan*, and as the *Conservation of Built Heritage Grant Program*.

As a professional heritage consultant and the owner of a designated property in Barrie, I support this revised CIP funding program. I have some concerns about the terminology used and the logistics of the program as proposed.

The following concerns are listed in the order of appearance in the City document circulated May 23, 2024, for review.

1. 1.1 Background

The term “built heritage” is used throughout the document and in the program title. The term “built heritage” has been superseded in the heritage community with the term “cultural heritage resources,” of which built heritage is one type of heritage resource.

It would be useful to acknowledge that a designated heritage property could include buildings (exterior and interior), structures, archaeological resources, and cultural heritage landscapes. If the intent of the City is to only fund “built heritage,” meaning buildings and structures, and only exteriors, this should be stated clearly.

2. 3.2 Goals and Objectives

Is the intent to only fund properties designated under s.29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, which enables a municipality to pass a designating bylaw? If so, the reference to Part IV, OHA, is too broad as Part IV includes properties of provincial interest protected by the Minister.

Of note is that a property can be protected under the OHA by a heritage conservation easement agreement with the Province and/or with a municipality. Is an easement property eligible for funding?

3. Program Eligibility and Requirements

Under the OHA, all “protected” property (i.e., protected by heritage legislation federally, provincially, municipally) is automatically and permanently listed on the Municipal Heritage Register. Non-protected property is listed on the Register for (currently) a period of two years before automatic delisting.

If the program is restricted to designated (and possibly otherwise protected) property, the reference to the Municipal Heritage Register is somewhat redundant and may give false hope to those owners with “listed” but not protected property.

The terms “renovation,” “restoration,” “adaptive re-use,” “historic façade improvements,” etc. are loose generic terms and somewhat misused in this program proposal. The

correct terminology and principles, defined within the context of accepted standards and guidelines for the conservation of heritage buildings, should be used.

Identifying the type and standard of work that is acceptable for funding is critical to the conservation of a protected property. The mandate should be to maintain the cultural heritage value or interest (as identified in the designating bylaw) by conserving the historic integrity of the property and its heritage attributes, through appropriate measures. These are protected properties, not just old buildings.

4. Ontario Heritage Act Provisions

A designated property is subject to provisions in Ontario Heritage Act s.33 *Alteration*; and s.34 *Demolition or Removal*. Each requires the owner to apply for approval. Before approval is granted, denied, or granted with terms and conditions, the application is reviewed for potential negative impact on the designated property. How are these legislated requirements accommodated in the proposed program?

5. Funding Amount

As an owner of a designated property and someone with decades of experience in the conservation of heritage properties, the proposed \$10,000 is underfunding. In Barrie, there are currently about 17 designated properties. Even with an average of one or two additional designations per year into the future, surely the funding can be increased to a meaningful level. Maintaining these heritage properties is important in itself. It is also important to the sustainability of existing (affordable) housing, and in combatting climate change through the continuing use of a resource.

From: Lingard, Norman <norman.lingard@bell.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 12:39 PM
To: cityclerks <cityclerks@barrie.ca>
Subject: D18-002-2024 - Heritage Community Improvement Plan

Good afternoon,

Thank you for circulating Bell Canada on the City of Barrie's Heritage Community Improvement Plan. Bell appreciates the opportunity to engage in infrastructure and policy initiatives across Ontario.

While we do not have any specific comments or concerns pertaining to this initiative at this time, we would ask that Bell continue to be circulated on any future materials and/or decisions related to this matter.

Please forward all future documents to circulations@wsp.com and should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Have a great week

Yours truly,

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