Lysynski, Heather

From:

Adam Crozier

Sent:

Monday, May 28, 2012 12:09 PM

Polhill, Bud; Bryant, Judy; Henderson, Dale; Swan, Joseph; White, Sandy; Lysynski, Heather; To:

Menard, Don; Fleming, John M.

Subject:

1576 Richmond Street

Categories:

Blue Category

To Chair Polhill and Members of the Planning and Environment Committee,

I will be unable to attend this afternoon's meeting, but I would like to publicly express my support for the designation of 1576 Richmond Street as a heritage property under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. While I understand that the property was purchased under the pretense that it was not invested on the City's heritage inventory, or designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, the commitments made by this Council and previous Councils to invest it as a Priority 1 structure proves that it is a prime candidate for designation. I won't recount the reasons for designation, as they are detailed in the staff reports of April 10 and May 28, but needless to say I agree with the staff assessment of the matter.

I must admit that I believe that not every 'old' building deserves to be placed on the heritage inventory or designated as a heritage property, as unfortunate as that fact may be. In fact, you have two additional properties before you this afternoon for which I agree with the staff recommendation to proceed with the issuance of a demolition permit. However, there are instances where designation is warranted, and I believe that 1576 Richmond Street does warrant a heritage designation.

Finally, I would like to note that I understand that there needs to be a balance between heritage and progress, and that new development is just as important as the preservation of heritage dwellings. However, the question I am always left with and will leave with the Committee is - When should progress trump heritage?

I apologize for not being able to make my presentation in person, and appreciate your consideration of my comments in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Crozier MPA

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