

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to the demolition of 93-95 Dufferin

To whom it may concern,

When Londoners were asked to participate in the forming of the City's new Official Plan - named the London Plan - Londoners spoke loudly that heritage was an important attribute worth preserving and celebrating. It went straight to the heart of what kind of city Londoners wanted - a cultural diverse city which included its past history. Their voices were heard and it was adopted as city wide policy that heritage buildings were not be to demolished but preserved and re-purposed in new development.

Developers continue to ask for demolition permits for heritage buildings because Council has yet to fully grasp the sentiment of Londoners who believed that adopting a heritage preservation policy in the Official Plan would bring an end to these site by site battles to preserve our heritage. Yet developers continue to test the resolve of Council, and Londoners must continue to mobilize to defend their historical buildings, which are testimonials to their heritage even though they have already spoken loudly.

Please respect what Londoners are telling you. Heritage preservation and re-purposing should enhance architectural design not hinder it.

The public notice for the rezoning amendment to demolish 93-95 Dufferin did not include a rationale for the request nor is it available electronically for public review. Nonetheless, I reject this zoning amendment and the demolition of 93-95 Dufferin.

The demolition of Camden Terrace did not have public support. It had only political support because at the time, Mayor Matt Brown was excited that this development would be the tallest in southwestern Ontario - a detail the public viewed as inconsequential. In their decision to move forward with demolition, Council preserved 93-95 Dufferin so not to completely erase the heritage of the Downtown Talbot Block. And the frontage of Camden Terrace was to be rebuilt using original brick - unique to 19th century architecture in the London area. It was compensation to the community.

I would appreciate you upholding this decision made by the previous Council.

Thank You,

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