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RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL MEETING NO. 11 DATED MAY 24, 2005

REPORT NO. 19 - DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

(8) DEMOLITION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS FEDERAL AIRPORT LANDS (PICKERING LANDS SITE) Report (10.0, 13.1)

That the Federal Minister of Transportation be advised that the preservation of heritage resources is a key strategic objective of the Town of Markham in achieving a quality community;

And that the Town of Markham appreciates the Federal initiative to encourage dialogue with local municipalities regarding the future of heritage resources within the Pickering Lands Site and the cultural heritage objectives of their draft Green Space Master Plan;

And that Council is very concerned that the current approach of Transport Canada, to demolish a number of Heritage Buildings, will result in the continued loss of locally significant heritage resources and rural communities, creating a large depopulated area in the north-east part of Markham;

And that Council is further concerned that the current Transport Canada approach to demolish heritage buildings is <u>not</u> consistent with the policies of the Draft Federal Green Space Master Plan:

And that the Town of Markham respectfully requests that no demolitions of any heritage buildings on the portion of the Federal Pickering Airport Lands Site within the boundaries of the Town of Markham occur until strategies for short term and long term preservation of significant heritage buildings are finalized and that security for protection of the buildings during this time be provided;

And further that Council request Town staff continue to work with Transport Canada to develop a cultural heritage protection strategy:

- 1. that is consistent with the stated principles and vision for the Federal Green Space lands, and;
- 2. that will provide interim cultural heritage protection for the non-green space Pickering Airport lands until such time as the long-term use of the non-Green Space lands in Markham is determined;

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And that Transport Canada be requested to consider as part of the strategy deliberations, privatization of the heritage buildings from government and agency-owned to privately-owned, as described in previous resolutions of the Town of Markham.

Sheila Birrell

Town Clerk

Copy to: G. Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner



Cabinet du ministre des Transports

28 JUL 2005

Ms. Sheila Birrell Town Clerk Clerk's Department The Corporation of The Town of Markham 101 Town Centre Boulevard Markham ON L3R 9W3

Dear Ms. Birrell:

On behalf of the Honourable Jean-C. Lapierre, Minister of Transport, I am writing in response to your correspondence of May 26, 2005, regarding the Pickering Lands site. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

I have noted your views with respect to this issue and am pleased to provide the following information in response to your comments.

As you are aware, Transport Canada is working closely with the Pickering Lands Site Heritage Working Committee to develop a Heritage Strategy for buildings deemed locally significant. I am confident that the Town of Markham's recommendations and concerns will be taken into consideration when decisions are made regarding this Strategy.

The Town of Markham has also made an important contribution to Transport Canada's Pickering Lands Site Heritage Working Committee, which is currently preparing recommendations for the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC). The HAC is composed of Transport Canada officials, the mayors of Pickering, Markham and Uxbridge, and Minister Lapierre's Special Assistant for Ontario. The preparatory work on the recommendations has been thorough and the expertise of the municipality's representatives invaluable. The resulting strategy will address many of the concerns that you raised in your correspondence.

I appreciate your concern about demolition on the Pickering Lands site. I should inform you that Transport Canada has directed Public Works and Government Services Canada to place all properties with potential local heritage significance as the lowest priorities on any list identifying properties for demolition. Please be assured that Transport Canada will not take action on local heritage structures until the properties have been assessed in accordance with criteria being developed in support of the Heritage Strategy. I should also emphasize that no action will be taken unless absolutely necessary.

If you have any additional questions or comments, I would encourage you to contact Transport Canada's Regional Manager, Pickering Lands, Green Space, and Planning, Ms. Patricia Short-Gallé, at (905) 649-5725.

I trust that the foregoing has clarified the department's position with respect to this matter. Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

Leslie Swartman Chief of Staff

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4900 Yonge Street, Suite 400 North York, Ontario M2N 6A5

January 5, 2007

His Worship, Mayor Frank Scarpitti Town of Markham 101 Town Centre Blvd. Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3

Dear Mayor Scarpitti:

I would like to update you regarding planned demolitions on the Pickering Lands Site. This update will assist you in responding to inquiries made to your office. As well, we are placing a public notice in the Markham Economist and Sun, the Pickering News Advertiser and L'Express de Toronto over the next week to ensure open and transparent communications with interested parties. The public notice will also appear on our web site at: www.tc.gc.ca (enclosed).

You will recall that, as part of Transport Canada's management responsibility for the Pickering Lands Site, a number of tenants on the property were issued a Termination of Tenancy Notice with the intent to demolish the residential dwellings once vacated. In seven of these cases, Transport Canada is now in a position to proceed with the demolitions. Transport Canada is legally committed to demolish these residential dwellings as this was the ground for issuing the original Notices of Termination to seven tenants under the Ontario *Tenant Protection Act*. Along with these vacated dwellings, five dilapidated barns will also come down because of safety concerns.

The dwellings and barns are located in the Town of Markham and the City of Pickering and were reviewed and determined not to have federal heritage significance. However, two of the three vacant dwellings that are in Markham, located at 9664 York/Durham Town Line and 10472 Reesor Road, were considered to have potential local heritage value by an informal Transport Canada Local Heritage Working Group of area representatives. The third vacant dwelling in Markham is located at 10987 Ninth Line (see attached drawing for ease of reference).

The department is open to receiving your plans, if any, for a photographic record, measured drawings and/or salvage of significant architectural elements in these two local heritage dwellings prior to demolition. If you have any such local heritage plans, please send the details together with the timelines to the undersigned by January 19, 2007.

The contracting process seeking a professional firm qualified in demolitions has begun. The demolitions are expected to take place over the next few months. You may refer constituent inquiries to the National Service Call Centre at 1-888-526-5673.

If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (416) 973-9810. I will continue to communicate important decisions and provide updates on key activities regarding the Pickering Lands.

Yours truly,

Linda Hoffman Regional Director

Pickering Lands Branch

Enclosures: (2)

cc: Debra Taylor, Regional Director General, Transport Canada, Ontario Region Marie-Hélène Lévesque, Acting Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Transport Canada





Frank Scarpitti Mayor

January 23, 2007.

Linda Hoffman Regional Director- Pickering Lands Branch 4900 Yonge Street, Suite 400 North York, ON M2N 6A5

Dear Ms. Hoffman

RE: **Proposed Demolitions**

9664 York Durham Line - Ebenezer Madill House, c.1855 10472 Reesor Road - John Boyles House, c.1870s

10987 Ninth Line - Jacob G. Hoover House, C.1890

This correspondence is in response to your letter of January 5, 2007 regarding your planned demolition of the above three properties located on the Pickering Lands Site within the Town of Markham

The three properties are identified in the Markham Inventory of Heritage Resources as listed heritage buildings. Two of the buildings have been evaluated by the Transport Canada Heritage Working Group and the third has been evaluated by the Town of Markham. All were found to possess significant cultural heritage value to our municipality. The Ebenezer Madill House was also given the highest rating possible in 1974 by a joint federal-provincial panel that surveyed all the heritage buildings on the airport lands. The rating indicated: "Structures of such architectural merit and cultural importance as to be significant in the broadest context. All these structures may fairly be regarded as of provincial significance, at the very least, and warrant preservation at any cost, preferably on current sites".

Your letter indicates that the dwellings and barns were reviewed and determined not to have federal heritage significance. This fact is not surprising since according to your own staff, over 350 of your properties have been reviewed by the Federal Building Review Office and none have been found to be federally significant. Local heritage buildings do not fare well under the federal evaluation system with its criteria primarily geared to institutional buildings of national significance, not vernacular residential dwellings from our early pioneers. It is for this reason, the Transport Canada Heritage Working Group was established and has been using an evaluation system that addresses local heritage significance.

Our expectation was that no building demolition would proceed on these lands until a comprehensive heritage buildings strategy was developed under the direction of the Transport Canada Heritage Steering Committee of which I am a member. I attended the initial meeting of the TC Heritage Steering Committee as Deputy Mayor with our Manager of Heritage Planning in March 2005. Since that time, the Heritage Working Group (staff) met a number of times in 2005 to review and evaluate heritage buildings, but the Steering Committee was never reconvened to discuss a heritage conservation strategy or recommendations.

I draw your attention to a letter we received in July 2005 from Leslie Swartman, Chief of Staff on behalf of the Minister of Transport which was in response to a resolution from Markham Council requesting that no demolitions of any heritage buildings occur until strategies for short term and long term preservation of significant heritage buildings are finalized. The Minister's response indicated that "Transport Canada has directed Public Works and Government Services Canada to place all properties with potential heritage significance as the lowest priorities on will not take action on local heritage structures until the properties have been assessed in strategy will address many of the concerns that you raised in your correspondence". As noted, Committee.

Since May of 2003 when Patricia Short-Galle, Regional Manager- Pickering Lands contacted the Town of Markham with an invitation to work together with her team to address the issue of properties having local heritage significance and stated that "we believe a coordinated approach with the municipalities will be mutually beneficial to all concerned", our municipality has been trying to work with Transport Canada officials on a workable solution. The proposed demolitions are not in keeping with the commitments given to our municipality.

In Markham, we work together with all property owners to preserve heritage resources in their ownership. We require our development industry to preserve heritage resource and find workable solutions within new developments and plans of subdivision. We should not expect any less of our own federal government.

We need to find a positive solution that preserves these three resources and the other buildings of cultural heritage value located on the Pickering Lands Site. As Mayor of Markham, I request that the demolition of the identified properties be deferred at this time and that Transport Canada and the affected municipalities continue to work together as partners to develop the absent Heritage Strategy. I look forward to attending a Heritage Steering Committee meeting to discuss these matters.

Yours sincerely

Frank Scarpitti Mayor Copy: Minister of Transport

Debra Taylor, Regional Director-Pickering Lands Branch, TC

The Honourable Jim Flaherty, Ministry of Finance

Lui Temelkovski, MP, Oak Ridges- Markham

Mark Holland, MP Ajax- Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan, City of Pickering

Mayor Bob Shepherd, Town of Uxbridge

John Webster, Ward 5

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Ontario Heritage Trust

Attachment: Letter from Office of the Minister of Transport, July 28, 2005

Letter from Linda Hoffman, Regional Director, Pickering Lands Branch, TC

Markham Council Resolution - May 24, 2005

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