

Walter, Penny

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Peggy Sarjeant - Councillor Block - Heritage Preservation in Saskatoon - CK 710-1
Attachments: councillor_block_heritage_preservation_motion_letter_apr_2022.docx

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 5:39 AM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

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--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 - 05:39

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

Date Tuesday, April 12, 2022

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Peggy

Last Name Sarjeant

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] University Drive

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) Saskatoon Heritage Society

Subject Councillor Block Motion re heritage preservation

Meeting (if known) City Council, MHAC, PDCS

Comments Please find attached letter from the Saskatoon Heritage Society

Attachments

[councillor_block_heritage_preservation_motion_letter_apr_2022.docx](#)

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting? No



Mayor and Members of Council

April 12 2022

Councillor Block's Motion re Heritage Preservation

The Saskatoon Heritage Society welcomes wholeheartedly Councillor Block's Motion to ask "City Administration to report back on options to strengthen heritage preservation in Saskatoon in a more sustainable and pro-active manner".

In the past, the City has primarily been in a reactive position when faced with heritage preservation issues. We were pleased, therefore, when it was agreed that the Administration could take a more engaged and pro-active approach to the Roxy Theatre situation. We hope that this approach is something that can be carried forward into the future.

The controversial development proposal adjacent to Knox United Church brought to light several gaps and a lack of clarity within the current Civic Heritage Policy. In a previous letter to City Council ("Consideration of Civic Heritage Policy" January 27 2021), we went into further detail of some of our concerns. That letter is copied below. The Heritage Policy and Program Review (Luxton Report) addresses other heritage issues.

Saskatoon's Official Community Plan includes references to heritage stewardship throughout but is this backed up by our current heritage policy?

Now is the time to re-consider our approach to heritage preservation. We need to ensure that consideration of our built heritage forms a vital part of every planning decision. We need to acknowledge the important role that re-purposing buildings, rather than demolishing them, plays in our goal of reducing greenhouse emissions. We need to recognize the economic role our heritage structures play in supporting tourism initiatives.

Our built environment is the face we show the world. Is this to be the bland face of shopping malls or the unique and interesting streetscapes of downtown and our core neighbourhoods?

Peggy Sarjeant

President, Saskatoon Heritage Society

ATTACHMENT

Mayor and Members of City Council

January 27, 2021

Consideration of Civic Heritage Policy

The discussion surrounding the development proposal to build a large condominium tower between Knox United Church and St John's Cathedral has caused much confusion and has brought to light several gaps and a lack of clarity within the Civic Heritage Policy.

- 1. One of the most important issues is the lack of an integrated response across civic departments when faced with a proposed development which will likely have an impact on heritage properties. There seems to be no clear flagging procedure which would enable different departments to discuss an issue and ensure that the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee is alerted in a timely manner. Instead of being able to proactively discuss an issue in a cooperative manner, the current situation leads to confusion and isolation of MHAC. At what point does the Heritage Coordinator and MHAC learn of a potential impact on a heritage resource?*

The Civic Heritage Policy is vague when it comes to proactive discussion between developer and the Heritage Coordinator. It seems to be limited to conflict resolution when the land under discussion forms part of a Designated Heritage Landscape. It does not address a potential role for MHAC.

- 2. The Civic Heritage Policy may require a developer to provide a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) when a large development is proposed adjacent to heritage properties. **But**, there are no details provided regarding the process or the timing of an HIS. Surely, a Heritage Impact Statement should be provided at the outset of a development proposal, not in the middle of the process? This Section of the Heritage Policy has caused much confusion amongst the heritage community.*

These are but two of the major issues within the Civic Heritage Policy that have arisen during the discussion of the proposed Knox United Church development. There may be others. The Heritage Policy and Program Review (Luxton Report) addresses some of them.

We urge the City to re-open the Civic Heritage Policy for further discussion and revision. This should be backed by research on best practices in other jurisdictions. Much can be done without additional resource allocation, but, should further financial support be needed, we would ask the City to provide additional support to Administration. The City has recently adopted a revised Official Community Plan which includes references to heritage stewardship throughout. An updated Heritage Policy will support the City's goals.

The Saskatoon Heritage Society would welcome the opportunity to have input into any further discussion surrounding the City's Heritage Policy.