

Heritage Burlington

Planner Update: May 15, 2018

1. Draft Downtown Streetscape Design Guidelines

- Todd Evershed from the Urban Design team will delegate to provide information and invite feedback on the draft downtown streetscape design guidelines.
- HB members are encouraged to check out the draft guidelines before the meeting at <https://www.burlington.ca/en/live-and-play/Downtown-Streetscape-Guidelines.asp>.

2. Consultation regarding 418 Burlington Ave

- 418 Burlington Ave is a property listed on the Municipal Register but not designated.
- The owner of this property submitted notice of intention to demolish the house on the property. Under the Heritage Act (s.27), the owner is required to provide 60 days' notice of their intention. The 60th day in this instance is June 4th, 2018.
- ARA had reviewed this property for HB/the City along with many other properties in 2014. This evaluation had found that 418 Burlington Ave met eligibility criteria for designation.
- Upon receiving the owner's notice of intention, staff retained ARA to conduct a more detailed analysis to expand upon their 2014 evaluation. ARA provided a report dated April 27, 2018, which is attached to this agenda.
- Planning staff requested that Heritage Burlington's Evaluation Subcommittee review the property using their draft evaluation guidelines prior to the May 15th committee meeting.
- Planning staff will present a recommendation report to Council on June 4, 2018. Due to timing constraints related to report submission deadlines and the Heritage Act 60-day period, it was not possible for staff to formally consult Heritage Burlington prior to writing the recommendation report.
- Staff seek to consult with Heritage Burlington on this matter. Heritage Burlington's comments will go directly to Council.

- **Heritage Burlington is asked to:**
 - **Review the April 2018 ARA report on 418 Burlington Ave**
 - **Discuss the findings of the Evaluation Subcommittee**
 - **Provide comments advising Council how to respond to the owner's notice of intention to demolish (i.e.: designate the property to prevent demolition, or remove the property from the Register)**

3. Updates on recently discussed heritage resources

- “Around the Bay” Race 15-mile milestone
 - Les Michalak from Burlington Runners’ Club delegated to the committee in February 2018 to discuss the potential of moving the milestone (which has been moved before) to a more prominent location, not far from where it is currently in a City-owned Right-of-Way at Plains Road West and Spring Gardens Road. Les intends to raise funds to cover the cost of moving the milestone and installing an interpretive panel beside it.
 - Heritage Burlington requested that Les develop a more detailed fundraising plan and report back to the committee, at which point HB would consider contributing funds and/or resources.
 - HB member Maggie Steiss volunteered to work with Les on developing content for an interpretive panel to be installed beside the milestone (similar to the interpretive panel Heritage Burlington and Aldershot BIA developed for Aldershot Corners in 2017).
 - Staff continue to work with Les on logistics.
 - A newspaper article on this topic was published in the Hamilton Spectator on March 20, 2018: <https://www.hamiltonnews.com/opinion-story/8337191-around-the-bay-road-race-the-story-of-the-stones/>
 - Two milestones remain in Hamilton: the 5-mile on Hamilton beach and the 17-mile on York Blvd near the high-level bridge. Les has reached out to City of Hamilton staff as well as City of Burlington staff.
 - In April 2018, City of Burlington staff hosted a meeting with Les Michalak, Howard and Maggie from Heritage Burlington, the Chair of Hamilton’s municipal heritage committee (Heritage Burlington’s counterpart in Hamilton), and City of Hamilton staff, to discuss a co-ordinated approach to commemorating the Around the Bay race and all three surviving

milestones. Both cities will take different approaches to commemoration, but will keep in touch and ensure consistency of information.

- It is hoped that the relocation of the Burlington milestone and installation of the interpretive panel beside it can be completed before the 125th annual Around the Bay race in March 2019. After that, Les may additionally pursue the funding and installation of a bench next to the Burlington milestone.
- Lowville School (in Lowville Park, 6207 Lowville Park Road)
 - This is a designated building owned by the City. A heritage permit was issued in spring 2017 for the replacement of the windows with custom replicas. Installation of these windows was delayed due to a manufacturer's defect but was completed in April 2018.
 - Councillor Taylor delegated to Heritage Burlington in November 2017 to advise that he hoped to see the building restored and rehabilitated/adapted for new recreational uses, whereas currently it is underutilized.
 - The 2018 capital budget allocated funding for the future use of the building to be studied. This funding has been used to retain a heritage architect to study the building and develop concepts for a heritage-sensitive rehabilitation of the building. This includes recommending the most sensitive way to accommodate retrofits for accessibility (ramps, wider door widths), bathrooms, and HVAC, which are necessary if the building is to be given a new use.
 - On April 30, 2018, Parks & Recreation staff hosted an Open House at the Lowville School. At this meeting:
 - Parks & Rec staff asked the public for ideas for potential recreational uses for the building;
 - Capital Works staff and the heritage architect (Alex Temporale of ATA) presented preliminary concepts of how the retrofitted/updated building might look;
 - Planning staff (Thomas) was present to share information on the history of Lowville and the school, and applicable heritage regulations;
 - The public was also invited to share stories and photographs of the School's past.

- The meeting was well attended and residents showed interest in conserving the heritage of the school. Some feedback that was received:
 - Residents made it clear that they valued the original slate chalkboards and want them conserved. These are not currently protected by the designation by-law for the property, which only refers to exterior features.
 - Residents expressed that the school is a highly photographed landmark in the park and its exterior appearance should be conserved. Concerns were expressed about the visual impact of a ramp or other accessibility features detracting from the appearance of the building. Questions were raised about the feasibility of finding a new recreational use in a building with no water supply.
- Parks & Rec staff and Capital Works staff will consider the public feedback and continue to work on concepts for the school over the summer. Depending on the outcome, they may seek funding for implementation in the 2019 capital budget.
- Prior to implementation of any proposal, the final concept must be reviewed by Heritage Burlington and a heritage permit must be issued.

4. Consultation on Refinement of Study Area for Heritage Consultant's Report on Downtown Mobility Hub

- In April 2018, staff requested advisory comments from Heritage Burlington to refine the study area(s) for a cultural heritage study of the downtown that will inform the development of planning policies for the Downtown Mobility Hub Area-Specific Plan. Upon completion and approval, the area-specific plan policies will be incorporated into the Official Plan and will guide future land use decisions in the downtown.
- **The Cultural Heritage (not including archaeology) study is intended to identify impacts of potential future development in priority areas on cultural heritage resources, and to make recommendations to the Mobility Hubs team about any policies that should be incorporated into the Area-Specific Plan to ensure that future development will not adversely impact those resources. The study is not intended to recommend designation of properties or the creation of a Heritage District.**
The consultants (ASI) will be doing the following:

- Background historical research and preliminary identification of existing cultural heritage resources;
- Field survey to identify and photograph individual cultural heritage resources within accessible portions of the study areas;
- Impact assessment based on the proposed land use plans, and development of policy recommendations and mitigation measures;
- Report preparation (report will provide advice on direct and indirect impacts of development and mitigation measures will be identified).
- ASI has advised that it is not feasible to conduct an in-depth study of the entire Downtown Mobility Hub boundary, as the area is too large. It is necessary to refine the study area, with consideration for priority blocks/streets which are focus areas of change. **Staff seek Heritage Burlington's input on the areas to be included in the study area.**
- HB's Downtown subcommittee/task force has been working on this request over the last month and has compiled photos and a draft list of properties/streetscapes to be included in the study area. This material is attached to tonight's agenda.
- **Heritage Burlington is asked to:**
 - **review the attached Downtown Mobility Hub Precinct Plan and precinct summary sheet that describes what type of development is proposed in each precinct;**
 - **review the attached draft map of downtown heritage resources;**
 - **review the attached draft recommendations prepared by the Downtown Subcommittee/Task Force;**
 - **advise staff of priority areas that Heritage Burlington would like to see included in ASI's study of cultural heritage resources.**