



CITY OF HAMILTON
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Economic Development Division

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	March 24, 2021
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Barton Kenilworth Tax Increment Grant Program - 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton (PED21054) (Ward 3)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 3
PREPARED BY:	Carlo Gorni (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2755
SUBMITTED BY:	Norm Schleeahn Director, Economic Development, Planning and Economic Development
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That a Barton Kenilworth Tax Increment Grant Program application submitted by 2621465 Ontario Inc. (Jeremy and Anna Greenspan), for the property at 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton, estimated at \$19,600.42 over a maximum of a nine-year period, and based upon the incremental tax increase attributable to the renovations of 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Barton Kenilworth Tax Increment Grant Program;
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute a Grant Agreement together with any ancillary documentation required, to effect recommendation (a) of Report PED21054 in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (c) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to approve and execute any Grant Amending Agreements, together with any ancillary amending documentation, if required, provided that the terms and conditions of the Barton Kenilworth Tax Increment Grant Program, as approved by City Council, are maintained.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Barton Kenilworth Tax Increment Grant Program (BKTIGP) application for the renovation of 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton, was submitted by 2621465 Ontario Inc. (Jeremy and Anna Greenspan). At the time of application, the property contained a two-storey vacant building. Improvements to the interior of the building will be carried out to both the ground and upper level of the building. Now completed, the ground floor contains an art gallery and the upper level has been converted into an office and recording studio.

Development costs are estimated at \$180,000.00 and it is projected that the proposed redevelopment will increase the assessed value of the property from its current value of \$138,000.00 to approximately \$203,000.00. This will increase total annual property taxes generated by the property. The municipal share of this property tax increase (municipal tax increment) will be approximately \$2,800.06 of which 100% would be granted to the owner during years one to five, 80% or approximately \$2,240.05 in year six, 60% or approximately \$1,680.04 in year seven, 40% or approximately \$1,120.02 in year eight and 20% or approximately \$560.01 in year nine. The estimated total value of the grant is approximately \$19,600.42. Note that every year the tax increment is based on actual taxes for that year.

Upon completion of the redevelopment and reassessment of the property by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), staff will report back in an Information Update to Council on the actual redevelopment costs, the reassessment amount determined by MPAC and the grant amount.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 6

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for recommendation(s) only)

Financial: The City will collect full property taxes on the property and, in turn, provide a grant for nine years, declining each year after the first five years by 20%, based on the increase in the municipal portion of the taxes, post-development completion of 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton. Following year five of the grant payment, the City will start to realize the positive results of the Program from a financial perspective. Based on the projected figures, the estimated tax increment over nine years totals \$25,200.54, of which the applicant would receive a grant totalling approximately \$19,600.42 and the City retaining taxes totalling approximately \$5,600.12.

Staffing: Applicants and subsequent grant payments under the BKTIGP are processed by the Commercial Districts and Small Business Section and Taxation Division. There are no additional staffing requirements.

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Legal: Section 28 of the *Planning Act* permits a municipality, in accordance with a Community Improvement Plan, to make loans and grants which would otherwise be prohibited under Section 106(2) of the *Municipal Act*, to registered/assessed owners and tenants of lands and buildings. A Community Improvement Plan can only be adopted and come into effect within a designated Community Improvement Project Area. Changes to a Community Improvement Plan or Community Improvement Project Area require formal amendments as dictated by the *Planning Act*.

The applicant will be required to execute a Grant Agreement prior to the grant being advanced. The Grant Agreement will be developed in consultation with Legal Services.

As construction projects move forward, it is sometimes necessary to amend previously approved Grant Agreements and any ancillary documentation. Therefore, staff recommends that the General Manager of Planning and Economic Development be authorized to amend Grant Agreements and any ancillary documentation, provided that the terms and conditions of the BKTIGP are maintained.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

City Council, at its meeting held May 11, 2016, approved an amendment to the Downtown and Community Renewal Community Improvement Plan which introduced the BKTIGP. The Program is offered exclusively to property owners of residential/commercial lands and buildings located within the boundaries of the Barton Village Business Improvement Area (BIA), the Barton and Kenilworth commercial corridors and the properties that front on Barton Street between James Street North and Victoria Avenue North as identified in the Downtown and Community Renewal Community Improvement Project Area By-law. The terms of the Program offer a nine-year grant not to exceed the increase in municipal realty taxes as a result of the development.

The grant is to be in an amount which does not exceed 100% of the municipal realty tax increase during the first five years, 80% in year six, 60% in year seven, 40% in year eight, and 20% in year nine.

The project at 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton, is an eligible project under the terms of the BKTIGP. The applicant will qualify for the BKTIGP grant upon completion of the renovations. At the time of application, development costs were estimated at \$180,000.00. The total estimated grant over the nine-year period is approximately \$19,600.42.

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POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Urban Hamilton Official Plan

The subject property is municipally known as 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton and is located within “Neighbourhoods” on Schedule “E” – Urban Structure. The property is designated “Mixed Use – Medium Density” on Schedule “E-1” – Urban Land Use Designations.

The planned use of the property conforms to the above designation.

Zoning By-law No. 05-200

Under the City of Hamilton Zoning By-Law No. 05-200, the subject property is zoned “Mixed Use Medium Density (C5) Zone”.

The planned use of the property is permitted.



Pre-Renovation: 486 Barton Street East, Hamilton (Source: Applicant)



Post Renovation:486 Barton Street East, Hamilton (Source: Applicant)

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Staff from the Finance and Administration Division, Corporate Services Department and the Legal Services Division, City Manager’s Office was consulted, and the advice received is incorporated into Report PED21054.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Commercial Districts and Small Business staff, in co-operation with staff from the Taxation and Legal Services Divisions, developed an estimated schedule of grant payments under the terms of the Program. The final schedule of grant payments will be contingent upon a new assessment by MPAC following completion of the project. The applicant will be required to sign a Grant Agreement. The Grant Agreement contains provisions for varying the grant payment in each and every year based on MPAC’s assessed value. By signing, the applicant will accept the terms and conditions outlined therein prior to any grant payments being made. The Agreement outlines the terms and conditions of the grant payments over the five-year period.

The estimated grant shall be calculated according to the following formulas:

Grant Level:		100%	
Total Eligible Costs (Maximum):	\$	180,000.00	
Pre-project CVA: RT (Residential)	\$	138,000.00	Year: 2019
Total Pre-Project CV		\$138,000.00	
Municipal Levy:	\$	1,464.00	
Education Levy:	\$	<u>222.18</u>	
Pre-project Property Taxes	\$	1,686.18	
*Post-project CVA: CT (Commercial)	\$	203,000.00	
Estimated Post-project CV	\$	203,000.00	Year: TBD
Post-Project Property Taxes			
**Estimated Municipal Levy:	\$	4,264.06	
**Estimated Education Levy:	\$	<u>2,092.28</u>	
**Estimated Post-Project Property Taxes:	\$	6,356.34	

*The actual roll number(s), assessed value(s), tax classification(s) and value partitioning (where applicable) are to be determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC).

SUBJECT: Barton Kenilworth Tax Increment Grant Program -486 Barton Street East, Hamilton (PED21054) (Ward 3) - Page 6 of 7

**2019 tax rates have been used for calculation of the estimated post-development property taxes.

Pre-project Municipal Taxes = Municipal Levy = \$1,464.00
Municipal Tax Increment = \$4,264.06 - \$1,464.00 = \$2,800.06
Payment in Year One = \$2,800.06 x 1.0 = \$2,800.06

**ESTIMATED GRANT PAYMENT SCHEDULE for 486 BARTON STREET EAST
(Subject to re-calculation each year and up to the total eligible costs)**

Year	Grant Factor	Tax Increment*	Grant	
1	100%	\$	2,800.06	\$2,800.06
2	100%	\$	2,800.06	\$2,800.06
3	100%	\$	2,800.06	\$2,800.06
4	100%	\$	2,800.06	\$2,800.06
5	100%	\$	2,800.06	\$2,800.06
6	80%	\$	2,800.06	\$2,240.05
7	60%	\$	2,800.06	\$1,680.04
8	40%	\$	2,800.06	\$1,120.02
9	20%	\$	2,800.06	\$560.01
Total		\$ 25,200.54	\$19,600.42	

*Note that the tax increment is based every year on actual taxes for that year. The figures above are estimates. In other words, for each year a grant payment is paid, the actual taxes for the year of the grant payment will be used in the calculation of the grant payment.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

Decline the Grant and Approve a Reduced Amount

Declining a grant and/or approving a reduced amount would undermine the principles of the BKTIGP and regeneration efforts in general. This alternative is not recommended.

Financial: Grants totalling \$19,600.42 over a nine-year period would not be issued.

Staffing: Not applicable

Legal: Not applicable

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Economic Prosperity and Growth

Hamilton has a prosperous and diverse local economy where people have opportunities to grow and develop.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Our People and Performance

Hamiltonians have a high level of trust and confidence in their City government.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report PED21054 – Location Map

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