

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Marr-Phillipo House

From: Darren Earl

Date: October 9, 2021 at 9:25:28 PM EDT

To: mayor@hamilton.ca

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Dear Mayor Eisenberger,

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment with the planning committees decision to indorse a plan to move the Marr-Phillipo House from Wilson Street in Ancaster.

Marr-Phillipo House was built in 1840 and is a beautifully preserved building one of very few in Ontario from that era. The claimed reason for the move being hydrocarbon contamination on the site. However, there was no scientific data presented to substantiate this claim.

The real reason for the move is to expand the area available to the property developer in order to maximize profits. This site on Wilson street already has amazing potential for development and deification without having to get rid of the Marr-Phillipo House.

The Marr-Phillipo House is a corner stone Heritage Designated Property. If it were allowed to be moved it would lose any existing Official Heritage distinction. Which is equivalent to authorizing its demolition.

Please help force the developer to follow the rules and develop the property in a way that respects the unique heritage asset that is the Marr-Phillipo House and its current context within the Ancaster village.

If developers are continually allowed to chip away at our heritage, we soon have nothing left. This fight is not specific to Ancaster, it applies to all of Hamilton as we struggle to meet provincial densification targets. I implore city council to show that densification and heritage preservation must work together.

Hamilton is emerging as power house within the GTHA and one of our greatest assets is our physical heritage. It draws in new residents, tourists and even film studios. If we let it slip away brick by brick, we will never get it back.

Regards

Darren Earl

(Resident of Hamilton (Ancaster))