

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Marr-Phillipo House

From: Robin Larin

Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 6:08 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Marr-Phillipo House

Dear Mayor Eisenberger,

I am writing to reiterate and support the email below written by Bob Maton, president of the Ancaster Heritage Community. I agree that the Marr-Phillipo House should remain where it currently stands as a landmark in Ancaster Village. We have already lost several key historic sites as developers seek to intensify business expansion in an entirely inappropriate manner for this heritage area. Mr. Maton has also circulated an email of October 7, 2021, from Wilf Ruland, an experienced hydrogeologist and specialist in water contamination issues, in which he states that "The current proposal [to move the Marr-Phillipo House and remediate the property] has the weakest evidentiary support I have ever seen over the course of my 35 year career." Mr. Ruland instead recommends "that the proponent should be requested to provide proper and adequately detailed hydrogeological documentation to support their proposal to remove/relocate the Marr-Phillipo House. In the meantime, the City of Hamilton should put the associated development application on hold pending receipt of further documentation."

Ancaster has a unique heritage identity in southern Ontario. Every demolition of a historic building further demolishes that identity and reduces our connection to our past and its legacy, both positive and negative, that should be preserved for future generations. I urge you to reconsider the planned move of the M-P House and the commercial development of Ancaster Village and to attend to the perspective and wishes of the people who actually live in this beautiful old town.

Thank you,
S. Robin Larin

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bob Maton [REDACTED]
Subject: **We are not giving up on the Marr-Phillipo House!**
Date: October 6, 2021 at 9:40:29 PM GMT-4
To: Bob Maton [REDACTED]

Hello everyone: As you know, the City Planning Committee voted 4-3 yesterday to approve relocating the Marr-Phillipo House to the back of the property on Wilson Street. Nevertheless, we believe we have support at City Council and are asking everyone to write to all the Councillors and the Mayor in support of preserving the Marr-Phillipo House in situ. Councillor Ferguson initiated the relocation, and voted in favour of it. I include the link to today's article by Teviah Moro in

the Spec for your information, and the email addresses of the Mayor and Council.

We are very concerned that this precious 1840 building is to be relocated to the rear of the lot on Wilson Street, to 15 Lorne Avenue, an address which does not exist. The move to this location is very risky, since the building has lost much of the mortar supporting its stonework. It is extremely fragile. It may not survive.

Further, not only will it be lost to view from Wilson Street (out of sight, out of mind), but its relocation opens up the possibility of a roadway allowing traffic access to Lorne Avenue from the massive commercial and condominium development which is planned, and from there onto Lodor, Academy and Church Streets. It also raises the possibility of cut-throughs between Wilson Street and Lorne Avenue, increasing a problem that already exists in that cut-through corridor between Wilson and Rousseaux.

As the Spec article says, the reason for relocating was to clean up hydrocarbon contamination from a gas station a few meters away, contamination which is **presumed** to be below the building. However, there was no drill-testing of the ground below the building to justify this move. If no contamination had been found, their justification for the relocation would have disappeared, but they have avoided this potential problem.

City staff recommended against the move as "premature" because of the lack of evidence supporting it. Even Councillor Ferguson, who supports the move, has said that evidence for the move is "scant". But the real reason emerges when the developer's lawyer says the relocation will open up the property for "greater intensification and greater use." Here is the key. They have no idea if the contamination is under the building, did not test to find out, but the building needs to be moved because, as developer Manchia has said in previous Ancaster News articles, otherwise he would refuse to build on the property. Such threats are completely inappropriate. Holding the City and Ancaster residents to ransom for increased profits is not a legitimate bargaining chip. Best wishes as always,

Bob Maton, President, Ancaster Heritage Community, Inc.

[Developer must meet conditions to move Ancaster heritage building | TheSpec.com](#)

Fred Eisenberger mayor@hamilton.ca

john-paul.danko@hamilton.ca

arlene.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca

brad.clark@hamilton.ca

brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca

esther.pauls@hamilton.ca

jason.farr@hamilton.ca

judi.partridge@hamilton.ca

lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca

maria.pearson@hamilton.ca

nrinder.nann@hamilton.ca

sam.merulla@hamilton.ca

tom.jackson@hamilton.ca