

BYLAW 20573

Bylaw to Designate the William Buster Residence as a Municipal Historic Resource - Amendment No. 1

Recommendation

That Executive Committee recommend to City Council:

That Bylaw 20573 be given the appropriate readings.

Purpose

To amend Bylaw 17853, being a Bylaw to Designate the William Buster Residence as a Municipal Historic Resource.

Readings

Bylaw 20573 is ready for three readings

Bylaw 20573 is authorized under the *Historical Resources Act*. A majority vote of City Council on all three readings is required for passage.

If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 20573 be considered for third reading.”

REPORT

The William Buster Residence was designated as a Municipal Historic Resource in 2017. Constructed in 1912 in Garneau, the two-and-one-half-storey, Craftsman influenced house is a good example of housing built in the area as a result of the establishment of the University of Alberta and construction of the High Level Bridge.

Municipal Historic Resource designation requires cooperation between a property owner and the City of Edmonton. At the time of designation, the City’s heritage planners work with the property owner to identify the scope of the rehabilitation that the owner will undertake. This scope is written into the legal agreement that becomes part of the designation bylaw approved by City Council. After the designation, however, circumstances related to the property sometimes change. Such changes can necessitate changes to the rehabilitation scope and thus trigger an amending bylaw like this one.

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The proposed change to the William Buster Residence designation would leave the City rehabilitation grant amount unchanged at \$75,000 but reallocate how these funds are assigned to different rehabilitation categories. Funds previously allocated to roof repairs (\$12,270) are no longer required for this purpose as a result of the property owner repairing the roof without recourse to City rehabilitation grants. The funds freed up as a result would now be split to cover increased costs identified for (1) window restoration, and (2) repair and repainting of the home's exterior cladding.

Community Insight

Heritage preservation is a priority for many Edmontonians. This bylaw will facilitate the preservation of the William Buster Residence by aligning City-funded rehabilitation grant amounts to the cost of the remaining rehabilitation work. Through the creation of The City Plan, Edmontonians advised that it was critical to retain and steward historic resources even as the City is redeveloped and modernized, recognized as The City Plan value of "Preserve." Administration has engaged with the owner of the property throughout the designation process. Additional engagement with the public for this process is not a requirement under the *Historical Resources Act*.

Budget/Financial Implications

The proposed change to the William Buster Residence heritage designation would leave the City rehabilitation grant amount unchanged at \$75,000. In previous years, \$46,743.75 has been paid from the Heritage Reserve Fund for this property. Reserve funding for the remainder has been allocated as part of the 2023-2026 operating budget.

Legal Implications

This amending bylaw is required in order to reallocate how the rehabilitation grant amount is allocated and extend the period of time in which the owner is required to complete the rehabilitation work.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 20573 - Bylaw to Designate the William Buster Residence as a Municipal Historic Resource - Amendment No. 1
2. Location Map

Others Reviewing the Report

- M. Plouffe, City Solicitor