

BYLAW 21106

To Designate Field Log House as a Municipal Historic Resource Amendment No. 1

Recommendation

That Executive Committee recommend to City Council:

That Bylaw 21106 be given the appropriate readings.

Purpose

To amend Bylaw 20802, being a bylaw to designate the Field Log House as a Municipal Historic Resource pursuant to the provisions of the *Historical Resources Act*, RSA 2000, c H-9.

Readings

Bylaw 21106 is ready for three readings.

Bylaw 21106 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 to third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 21106 be considered for third reading.”

REPORT

The Field Log House was designated as a Municipal Historic Resource in 2024 under Bylaw 20802. Constructed in 1934, it is a rare example of residential log construction in Edmonton and a landmark in the Bellevue neighbourhood.

Municipal Historic Resource designation requires cooperation between a property owner and the City of Edmonton. At the time of designation, Administration works 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 may change. Such changes may

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necessitate changes to the rehabilitation scope and trigger an amending bylaw, which is the case with the Field Log House.

The property owners have begun rehabilitation work on the Field Log House; however, the scope and depth of work required on the log exterior has grown. Additional investigation determined that a more intensive rehabilitation approach was required to appropriately repair the log exterior, versus the original approach of “repair as needed.” This necessitated an updated quote, which exceeds the amount originally allocated in the bylaw. The increased grant amount still falls below the maximum allowable grant for residential buildings.

Community Insight

Heritage preservation is a priority for many Edmontonians, as detailed in The City Plan. This bylaw will facilitate the preservation of the Field Log House 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 rehabilitation process to date and the development of the Amending Bylaw and Agreement. 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 Field Log House heritage designation would increase the heritage rehabilitation costs by \$59,056, from \$91,106 to \$150,162. The City will contribute up to 50 per cent of the costs, which is \$75,081 from the Heritage Reserve Fund to assist with rehabilitating the historic elements. Funding from the Heritage Reserve Fund was approved in the 2023-2026 operating budget. The proposed adjustment to the rehabilitation grant for the Field Log House still falls below the maximum allowable matching grant for residential buildings (\$100,000).

Legal Implications

This Amending Bylaw and the associated Amending Agreement are required in order to increase the rehabilitation grant amount for the Field Log House.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 21106 - To Designate the Field Log House as a Municipal Historic Resource - Amendment No. 1
2. Location Map For Field Log House

Others Reviewing the Report

- M. Gunther, Acting City Solicitor