

Heritage Vaughan Committee Report

DATE: Wednesday, February 19, 2025

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: VAUGHAN DESIGNATED HERITAGE PROPERTY PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

FROM:

Vince Musacchio, Interim Deputy City Manager, Planning, Growth Management and Housing Delivery

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

To update the Heritage Vaughan Committee on the Council approved Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Pilot Grant Program.

Report Highlights

- The Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Pilot Grant Program maintains a grant amount of \$100,000 per year.
- The Pilot Grant Program will be implemented for a minimum of two (2) years.
- Applicants can submit proposals for a one-time per year grant funding of up to \$10,000 covering 50% of the cost of eligible work.
- The review of all grant applications will be undertaken by Cultural Heritage staff in consultation with the Heritage Vaughan Committee.
- Staff will provide a report to Council annually detailing the results of the program, the lessons learned and seek Council direction regarding the potential continuation and/or modification of the program.

Recommendation

1. That the Heritage Vaughan Committee receive this Report as information.

Background

On October 9, 2024, Staff presented the Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Pilot Grant Program to Committee of the Whole (Working Session) to seek direction on details of the Program. Council provided comments with regards to the amount, creating different categories for commercial properties and residential properties, potential donations vs. fines under municipal by-law, and delegation authority.

On November 12, 2024, Staff presented a second report on the Pilot Grant Program to Committee of the Whole (2) and received approval from Council to proceed with the program as outlined in the extract from the Council meeting minutes.

Previous Reports/Authority

[EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 29, 2024](#), Item 2, Report No. 34 of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session).

[EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2024](#), Item 5, Report No. 39 of the Committee of the Whole 2.

Analysis and Options

The By-law to establish a Designated Heritage Property Grant Pilot Program, as per Recommendation #2 from the November 19, 2024, Committee of the Whole (2) Report is currently being prepared by City legal staff and will be presented to Council in Q1 of 2025.

Cultural Heritage staff will be working to formally launch the new Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Pilot Grant Program through Q1 of 2025 now that Council approval has been given. This will include a dedicated webpage for the Program that will aid in informing and educating residents and potential applicants, notification to all eligible property owners and a process for the intake of applications in line with the approved City of Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Grant Program Guidelines (see Attachment 1 from the November 19, 2024, Committee of the Whole (2) Report).

Financial Impact

The program maintains an initial fund of \$100,000 for 2025 and an additional \$100,000 for 2026 all from tax revenue.

Operational Impact

The new Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Pilot Grant Program will require significant staff time to get the program launched and then a moderate amount of staff resources for the maintenance of the Program going forward.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

There are no broader Regional impacts or considerations.

Conclusion

The new Vaughan Designated Heritage Property Pilot Grant Program provides assistance to heritage property homeowners to maintain and restore their property and aligns with the Council's Strategic Priorities by working to preserve resources and features of cultural heritage value in order to foster community well-being.

For more information, please contact Shawn Persaud, Senior Manager, Policy Planning and Special Programs, ext. 8104.

Prepared by

Shawn Persaud, Senior Manager, Policy Planning and Special Programs, ext. 8104.
Christina Bruce, Director, Policy Planning and Special Programs, ext. 8231.