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STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Pleasant View Branch Property – Partial Transfer of Property to the City of Toronto

Date: January 27, 2025

To: Toronto Public Library Board

From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Toronto Public Library Board approval to transfer ownership of 0.40 metres of property along the Van Horne Avenue frontage of the Pleasant View Branch, municipally known as 575 Van Horne Avenue, to the City of Toronto. The transfer is in response to the City's Engineering & Construction Services' Memorandum dated July 25, 2023 and issued to the Director of City's Community Planning, North York District, as part of the site plan application process for the Pleasant View capital project. The transfer of 0.40 metres is required by Transportation Services in order to widen the Right of Way to 27 metres.

The remaining property at the municipal address, 575 Van Horne Avenue, will continue to be jurisdictionally owned by Toronto Public Library (TPL) for operations of the Pleasant View branch.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. transfer ownership of 0.40 metres of property along the Van Horne Avenue frontage of the Pleasant View Branch, municipally known as 575 Van Horne Avenue, to the City of Toronto, subject to the following:
 - a. City Council approves the transfer as required under section 19(1)(d) of the Public Libraries Act; and
 - b. the City acquires the road widening pursuant to s. 114 of COTA and Chapter 415-19 of the Municipal Code; and
2. authorizes the City Librarian to act on its behalf to execute the title transfer and any ancillary documents and enter into any required agreements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact associated with this report beyond what has already been approved in the current operating and capital budgets.

The Director, Finance & Treasurer, has reviewed this financial impact statement and agrees with it.

DECISION HISTORY

The transfer of ownership is required as part of the Pleasant View named project in the approved capital budget.

BACKGROUND

The Pleasant View branch project consists of an expansion, interior renovation and improvements to exterior walkways and streetscaping. The expansion to the existing branch will increase usable square footage and relocates the main entrance closer to Van Horne Avenue. The interior renovation improves the interior layout and functional spaces to better serve Library customers and staff. Exterior work enhances the pedestrian walkways and streetscaping.

As part of the Site Plan Application review process, City's Engineering & Construction Services issued a Memorandum dated July 25, 2023, to the Director of Community Planning, North York District, to address additional information required for site plan studies and drawings. The revision requested from Transportation Services requires a 0.40 metre widening on Van Horne Avenue frontage to satisfy requirement of a 27m wide right-of-way.

City's Community Planning issued a Notice of Approval Conditions (NOAC) for Site Plan Control Application No. 23 142940 NNY 17 SA indicating the 0.40 metre widening along Van Horne Avenue as part of the pre-approval conditions.

COMMENTS

City Legal has confirmed that transfer of the ownership for the strip of land requires approval by the Library Board in order to comply with the Public Libraries Act. The transfer of this small portion of land does not impact branch operations. TPL will continue to maintain jurisdictional ownership of the property, municipally known as 575 Van Horne Avenue, for the purposes of operating the Pleasant View branch.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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