

Planning Committee
Report 32
November 25, 2020

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Comité de l'urbanisme
Rapport 32
le 25 novembre 2020

Extract of draft Minutes 32
Planning Committee
November 10, 2020

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal 32
Comité de l'urbanisme
le 10 novembre 2020

Bird-Safe Design Guidelines

ACS2020-PIE-EDP-0032

City Wide

Report recommendation

That Planning Committee recommend Council approve the Bird-Safe Design Guidelines, attached as Document 1.

Vice-chair Gower introduced the following motion:

Motion N^o PLC 2020-32/3

Moved by Vice-chair G. Gower

WHEREAS the report on Bird-Safe Design Guidelines (ACS2020-PIE-EDP-0032) sets out to inform building, landscape and lighting design at the planning stage of private or public development projects to minimize the threat of bird collisions; and

WHEREAS since the committee agenda was released on October 30, 2020, concerns have been raised regarding when and how the guidelines would apply to development applications, and

WHEREAS staff have developed review criteria (see attached - Bird-Safe Design Guidelines – Development Application Review Criteria) based on the guidelines in the report to assist development review staff on when and how to apply the guideline;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Planning Committee recommend to Council to add the following to the Disposition section of the report

“3. Post the Bird-Safe Design Guidelines – Development Application Review Criteria on the City’s website, in an accessible format, to provide clarity to Planning Services staff and applicants when applying the guidelines.”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached¹ Bird-Safe Design Guidelines – Development Application Review Criteria be appended as Document 2 to the report.

Councillor Brockington introduced the following Direction to Staff:

That Planning Committee direct staff to report back on the implementation of the guidelines, including their application to both public and private projects, as part of the PIED Annual Report starting in 2022.

The committee heard one delegation on this matter:

- Heather Bryson, Safe Wings Ottawa², spoke in support of the guidelines as a crucial step in education and in the protection of local birds and helping to prevent some of the near quarter of a million local bird-building collisions annually. They support the motion and direction raised at this meeting, expect the guidelines are a living document that can be revisited and strengthened in time as the initiative matures, and offer to help as needed, such as with advice for monitoring existing city buildings, for identifying areas and prioritizing them for treatment, or providing performance indicators for reporting on progress.

In addition to the submission noted above, the following correspondence was provided to the committee coordinator between October 30 (the date the report was published to the City's website with the agenda for this meeting) and the time the matter was considered on November 10, 2020, a copy of which is held on file:

- Email dated November 8 from lola Price.

The Committee Carried Motion 32/3 and then Carried the report recommendations as amended, along with the Direction to staff raised by Councillor Brockington.

¹ See Annex A of this Document

² Submission on file

Annex A

Bird-Safe Design Guidelines – Development Application Review Criteria

Environmental Impact Statements

Where an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required to support a development application, the EIS consultant will review and consider the Bird Safe Design Guidelines in the preparation of the EIS and any associated recommendations. Staff will work with applicants to balance the Bird-Safe Design Guidelines with the urban design objectives of the project where necessary.

Site Plan Applications

Mid to high rise residential and medium to large scale commercial / industrial / institutional:

- Bird-safe glass or integrated protection measures may be required through conditions of site plan approval for projects involving large expanses of glazing¹ⁱ. However, it is important that the Bird-Safe Design Guidelines do not have a significant impact on the affordability or timelines of the respective project.

Education and Awareness

The guidelines should be promoted and shared during pre-application consultations, to raise awareness of the risk factors (e.g., glass and related design traps such as corner glass and fly-through conditions, ventilation grates and open pipes, landscaping, light pollution).

^{i 1} Recognize that corporate standards or other design requirements may limit or preclude use of bird-safe glass or integrated protection measures in cases of small-scale commercial buildings (e.g. restaurant, retail pads).