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Date: April 23, 2019  
To: Members of Etobicoke York Community Council  
From: Councillor Mark Grimes  
Subject: Request to Designate Heritage - 124 Birmingham Street and 260 Eighth Street

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## SUMMARY

The Hydro Substation, completed in 1917 by builder E.J. Lennox in the Edwardian Revival style, is currently listed on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register as it is associated with the historical development of the Etobicoke community of New Toronto.

In 1889, Toronto industrialist Thomas McDonald formed a real estate company and purchased over 500 acres of farmland in Etobicoke Township. McDonald subdivided the tract into commercial, residential and industrial sectors, with industrial lands reserved on Seventh Street (now Islington Avenue) and Eighth Street to the west.

The Hydro Substation is a landmark in New Toronto where it anchors a corner lot near the intersection of Islington Avenue and Eighth Street, and is part of a series of industrial complexes associated with the development of New Toronto. In the neighbourhood, the Boxer Building (circa 1908) at 222 Islington Avenue and the Bell Telephone Company Building (circa 1926) at 80 Birmingham Street are both designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The site of the Hydro Substation has been listed for sale by CreateTO. To conserve the cultural heritage value of the landmark property and maintain the historic industrial character of metal manufacturing of over 80 years in South Etobicoke, I am requesting a heritage designation evaluation of the site be completed urgently.

## RECOMMENDATION

1. City Council request the Senior Manager, Heritage Preservation Services, urgently complete the evaluation of the property at 124 Birmingham Street and 260 Eighth Street according to provincial criteria Regulation 9/06 and finalize recommendations to designate the Hydro Substation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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