



Auditorium Neighbourhood Association
Proposal to the City of Kitchener

It is the desire of the Auditorium Neighbourhood Association to make use of the property at 311 East Avenue, currently owned by the City of Kitchener, and formerly known as Kitchener Hydro Substation 7.

The property, which consists of a building and gravel bed on a small parcel of land abutting Knollwood Park, is located at the centre of the Auditorium Neighbourhood Association. As such is it is easily accessible on foot, to all members of the neighbourhood.

The proposed use of the property will be dependant on the costs for each of the phases of the proposal and the funding raised by the neighbourhood for this project.

The proposed, phased, use of the property is as follows:

Phase 1

- The facility would be used as storage for ANA properties, such as signage, special events items, ANA records, and publications.
- The facility would also act as a signpost for the Neighbourhood association – there would be a wooden (sandblasted) sign welcoming passers by to ANA. The sign would comply with local by-laws and be situated near the front of the property visible from East Ave. and Stirling Ave. N. At the base of the sign and along the front of the building would be flower gardens cared for by volunteers of ANA.
- On the back of the building would be a message board that would allow for the posting of ANA neighbourhood messages. Adjoining the Knollwood Park and Sheppard School properties, this location is viewed by many members of the neighbourhood walking through the area. The message board, which has already been secured, is available for immediate use.
- The use of the property as the rallying place of neighbourhood initiatives, an example of this would include the Neighbourhood Family Fun Run that is currently being organized.

All of the above uses are possible today and do not require modifications to the site, the re-introduction of heat, light or water, nor the renovation of the inside or outside of the building and constitute Phase 1.



Phase 2.

- Phase 2 would involve the introduction of electrical service to the site. Initially this service would be simply to allow for the lighting of the external signage and message board, and possibly the seasonal decorative use of lights at Halloween and Christmas. There would be an ongoing expense associate with this service that the association could budget for without the need for extensive fund raising.

Phase 3

- Phase 3 is planned to allow the use of the inside of the building; for board meetings, the organizing of neighbourhood volunteers, and the housing of a Neighbourhood Association office.

The Neighbourhood would work with the city to ensure that the building met any fire, safety and health requirements to be used for such a purpose. Access to the building during this phase would be limited.

The phased approach of this proposal is to allow the Neighbourhood to begin to use the site, Substation 7, immediately, with as little cost as possible.

The benefits that the Neighbourhood expects to derive from the use of the property are as follows:

1. A physical and visible presence for the Association in the community – today the association has no tangible presence
2. A communications tool to the community – the message board would be seen by a large number of people on a regular basis, as would a sign.
3. An improved sense of community – this project allows for the creative contributions of many of the community's members.
4. An improvement to the appearance of the Neighbourhood – while currently the grounds are maintained by the city, the site is poorly lit, boarded up and generally an overlooked area of the community. The creation and maintenance of flower gardens will breath signs of activity and life into the property.
5. As a facility housing the office of the Neighbourhood Association it will contribute to continuity of the association, attract participation, and build the sense of significance of the Association within the neighbourhood.
6. As a rallying point it will act as a catalyst for bringing people together for special events.