

25 May 2021

Notice of Motion, Cr Leppert: Delegation Policy for Planning Applications amendment

Motion

That Council:

1. Amends the Delegation Policy for Planning Applications by deleting clause 2.4.1.7 and replacing it with the following:
 - 2.4.1.7 Proposes the demolition or substantial redevelopment of a heritage building graded 'significant' (or equivalent).
2. Requests that management provide councillors with an opinion in future on whether any other changes to the Delegation Policy for Planning Applications may be warranted, considering the extent of triggers for automatic referrals and any gaps.

Background

The delegation policy for planning applications¹ states that:

...it is the policy of the City of Melbourne that the criteria to select planning applications to be decided by FMC include any application:

...

2.4.1 That is recommended to be approved and which:

...

2.4.1.7 Proposes the demolition or significant redevelopment of an A or B graded or equivalent heritage building.

...

Since planning scheme amendment C258 was gazetted, the dominant nomenclature for heritage gradings for buildings of local heritage significance in the City of Melbourne is "significant", "contributory" and "non-contributory" rather than the old A-D system. These terms are defined in clauses 22.04 and 22.05 of the Melbourne Planning Scheme. Amendment C396 proposes to remove the vestiges of the A-D system.

The motion seeks to align the Council's Delegation Policy for Planning Applications with the new gradings system, to provide clarity for all parties.

The motion also requests an opinion from management on any other changes to the policy that may be warranted in future, considering the extent of all triggers at 2.4.1.1 to 2.4.1.7, and any gaps that may exist. There is no timeline specified for this request and so is at the discretion of management.

Mover: Cr Rohan Leppert

Seconder: Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Nicholas Reece

¹ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/delegation-policy-planning-applications.pdf>