Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment

May 01, 2025

File: A/028/25

Address: 8545 McCowan Road, Markham

Applicant: The Biglieri Group Ltd (Morgan Baker)

Hearing Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025

The following comments are provided on behalf of the East Team:

The applicant is requesting relief from the following requirements of By-law 1229, SC1 as amended, as it relates to a proposed Jewellery Store:

a) By-law 1229, Amending By-law 326-82, Section 1.2(b):

retail sales of jewellery, whereas the by-law does not permit retail sales of jewelry:

BACKGROUND

Property Description

The 2,039.19 m² (21,949.67 ft²) subject property is located on the east side of McCowan Road, north of Highway 7 East and south of Heritage Road. The property is situated directly opposite Markville Mall and is surrounded by various industrial and commercial uses to the east and north.

Proposal

The applicant is proposing to operate a retail jewellery store within the existing commercial building.

Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 1987 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on April 9/18)

Until the Markville Secondary Plan is in place the 1987 OP shall apply.

The Official Plan designates the subject property "Major Commercial Area", which provides for a diverse range of retail, service, community, institutional and recreational uses. Some uses under this designation include retail, service, offices, banks and financial institutions and restaurants.

Zoning By-Law 1229

By-law 1229, as amended by By-law 326-82. This zoning permits a range of commercial, retail, service, hospitality, and office uses, including restaurants, financial institutions, personal service shops, professional offices, and various specialty retail stores.

Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken

The owner has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has <u>not</u> been conducted. However, the applicant has received comments from the building department through their permit process (24.200159 AL) to confirm the variances required for the proposed development.

COMMENTS

The Planning Act states that four tests must be met in order for a variance to be granted by the Committee of Adjustment:

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee of Adjustment, for the appropriate development or use of land, building or structure;
- c) The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law must be maintained;
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

Proposed Jewellery Store

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit the retail sales of jewellery, whereas the bylaw does not specifically permit the retail sales of jewellery. Staff note that the in-force 1987 Official Plan provides for retail uses on the Subject Lands as it is designated "Major Commercial Area". The Zoning By-law also permits certain types of retail uses. Staff are of the opinion that the requested variance to allow the retail sales of jewellery is similar to the permitted retail use in the Zoning By-law. Staff are of the opinion that the requested variance is minor in nature and meets the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-Law and Official Plan.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of May 8, 2025. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

CONCLUSION

Planning Staff have reviewed the application with respect to Section 45(1) of The Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended, and are of the opinion that the variance request meets the four tests of the Planning Act and have no objection. Staff recommend that the Committee consider public input in reaching a decision.

The onus is ultimately on the applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the zoning by-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the Planning Act required for the granting of minor variances.

Please refer to Appendix "A" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

APPENDICIES

Appendix "A" – A/028/25 Conditions of Approval Appendix "B" – Drawings

PREPARED BY:

Aaron Chau, Planner I, East District

REVIEWED BY:

Stacia Muradali, Development Manager, East District

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APPENDIX "A" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/028/25

1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains;

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Aaron Chau, Planner I, East District

