

“We owe those artists,” she said.

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Subcommittee chair Coun. Glen Gower said the city “doesn’t have a direct hand” on that issue but based on Tuesday’s discussion at [city hall](#), he thinks the building “still has the potential to be a really interesting urban space.”

“I think if you look at other interesting, former industrial uses, they tend to attract that kind of interesting business, whether it’s artists or whether it’s a creative company,” Gower said. “So I hope we see the same thing.”

READ MORE: [Ottawa’s old, industrial Booth Street Complex on track for heritage status](#)

The heritage designation application will go to planning committee for approval in January and, after that, to [Ottawa city council](#). Gower said he’s pleased to see the file move forward and saluted the participation of the property owner and the community association in the process.

“There’s so much renewal happening around that Preston Street corridor ... I just had a fear that development pressures would make this one of these battles that we would have to fight on to save this building,” Gower said.

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Ottawa Tennis and Lawn Bowling Club also on track for heritage designation

The built heritage subcommittee also voted unanimously Tuesday to go after heritage designation for the Ottawa Tennis and Lawn Bowling Club on Cameron Avenue in Old Ottawa South.

The property owner came forward with the request for heritage status “in order to improve their chance of receiving a grant” from the federal department of heritage, planning staff said. The owner is hoping to score about \$500,000 towards restoration plans for the property, according to staff.



An image of the Ottawa Tennis and Lawn Bowling Club at 176 Cameron St. in Old Ottawa South.
City of Ottawa





An undated image of the north façade of the Ottawa Tennis and Lawn Bowling Club at 176 Cameron Ave. in Old Ottawa South. **City of Ottawa Archives**

The sports clubhouse was built around 1923 and it's been used as one since. Staff support pursuing heritage designation because it “reflects an era when tennis and lawn bowling were becoming popular sports for the middle class in Canada” and because “it is a landmark that also defines the character of this part of the early 20th century neighbourhood in Old Ottawa South.”

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Area councillor Shawn Menard also said he supports the heritage designation.

The application will now be expedited to council for approval on Wednesday to allow the property owner to finish their application for the federal grant, Gower said.

Vars set to get first designated heritage building

The rural Ottawa community of Vars is also on track to get its first designated heritage building after Tuesday's meeting.

Members of the subcommittee voted unanimously in favour of protecting a former Traders Bank of Canada building at 1824 Farwel Street in the east-end community, once a "prosperous" railway village in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The old brick-clad bank was built in 1910 by the Traders Bank of Canada and later operated as a Royal Bank of Canada branch. It was converted into a residence in the 1950s, according to planning staff.

The property is "one of the few remaining former commercial buildings in Vars," staff said in their report. The building's owner came to the city to request the designation this summer after the property was added to the municipality's updated heritage register, staff told the subcommittee.

In an email, Cumberland Coun. Stephen Blais said he hasn't received any negative feedback from the community on the proposal and he will discuss it with staff next week. The file will go to council for approval at the end of January.

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Coun. Rick Chiarelli was absent from Tuesday's meeting.