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# Building owners want tax credit

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*The old Brick's Fine Furniture building on Lombard Avenue. (PHIL HOSSACK / WINNIPEG FREE PRESS)*

The owners of a downtown building have asked the City of Winnipeg for a 20-year heritage tax credit.

The group of owners of 111 Lombard Ave, the former Kemp Building, have asked that Winnipeg extend the 10-year tax credit for heritage buildings over a period of 20 years.

According to a city administrative report, released Friday, the owners have requested the extension to help with significant upgrades to the building, which will be occupied by commercial tenants.

The building recently changed ownership after being purchased from long-time owner and occupant, Brick's Fine Furniture. Property records show the building is now owned by Monte Nathanson and a group of individuals registered to addresses in Boca Raton, Florida.

The report said the owners plan to invest more than \$23.5 million in the building, including new heating, plumbing, fire suppression and electrical systems. If approved, the total value of the tax credit would be \$2.3 million.

Public Capitol Company, a company which owns the Canada Building at 352 Donald St, has also asked the city for a 15-year heritage tax credit. City council approved a \$1.2 million 15-year tax credit for the company in 2007, but their project did not proceed.

A city report said the company re-examined redevelopment and has secured a significant tenant. The company plans to invest more than \$8.5 million in the building.

Council's executive policy committee will review both reports at a meeting on Wednesday.

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