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Crews slowly continue to demolish Worcester's Notre Dame church after failed lawsuit, appeal by preservationists

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By [Melissa Hanson](#)
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Pieces of the Notre Dame des Canadiens church in downtown Worcester continue to slowly come down as the group trying to save the 1929 structure focus their efforts on the City Council.

Workers on lifts focused on the roof of the church and one of its massive window panes on Monday morning and into the afternoon.

Demolition continues slowly as the group Save Notre Dame Alliance works to bounce back from failed legal attempts to preserve the historic building.

A Worcester Superior Court judge denied a preliminary injunction to halt demolition. The group filed an appeal, which was denied as well.



[Court denies appeal by group trying to save Worcester's Notre Dame Church](#)

[A group fighting to save the former Notre Dame des Canadiens Church in Worcester had their appeal denied in the Massachusetts Appeals Court.](#)

With legal options gone, the group has petitions filed with the City Council.

On the agenda for Tuesday night's meeting, Randy Feldman is requesting that the City Council establish a process to address decisions concerning accepting and/or developing the church during the council's summer recess.

Two tabled petitions are also on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting. One is a request by Jonathan Ostrow for clarification of the discussion about the scope of work and cost considerations

associated with the city taking the church at no charge and preserving its shell prior to its repurposing.

The another request from Feldman, who wants the city to fund a one week effort to determine the costs of mothballing, including \$10,000 for a study to be conducted by a structural engineer to determine long-term costs of the structural integrity of the church building.



[Judge denies '11th hour' bid to stop demo of Notre Dame Church](#)

[A Worcester Superior Court judge denied an "eleventh hour" bid to stop the demolition of the Notre Dame des Canadiens Church.](#)

John Kelly, the city's commissioner of Inspectional Services, researched what it could cost to mothball the church for 10 years. In a report to the city manager, he wrote that even to bring the building back to where it was a month ago would cost \$2 million.

"Today, the building is at the point of no return," Kelly wrote in the report, dated June 22. "Window removal is almost completed; the roof abatement has been finished and is now exposed to the interior of the building and extensive demolition to the interior has been completed. Water and sewer disconnects are the last component to be removed and the contractor will have the green light to move forward."

CitySquare II Development Co. is the developer behind a 22-acre project in the heart of downtown that has been funded by private, city and state developers, which surrounds Notre Dame. Cutler Associates of Worcester has been hired to carry out the demolition of the church.

Demolition slowly begins at Worcester's Notre Dame church

By Melissa Hanson | MassLive.com | Posted on June 25, 2018 11:58 AM | Updated June 27, 2018 3:00 PM

Crews slowly worked on demolishing the Notre Dame church. The 1929 structure is slated for demolition, and preservationists have been unsuccessful in their efforts to save the building.



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Crews started to work on the slow demolition process at the Notre Dame church in downtown Worcester on June 25, 2018.



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Crews worked on demolishing the Notre Dame church on June 25, 2018.



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Demolition of the Notre Dame Church slowly continued on June 27, 2018.



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Crews worked on demolishing the Notre Dame church on June 25, 2018.



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Demolition of the Notre Dame Church slowly continued on June 27, 2018.



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Demolition of the Notre Dame Church slowly continued on June 27, 2018.



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Demolition of the Notre Dame Church slowly continued on June 27, 2018.



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Demolition of the Notre Dame Church slowly continued on June 27, 2018.

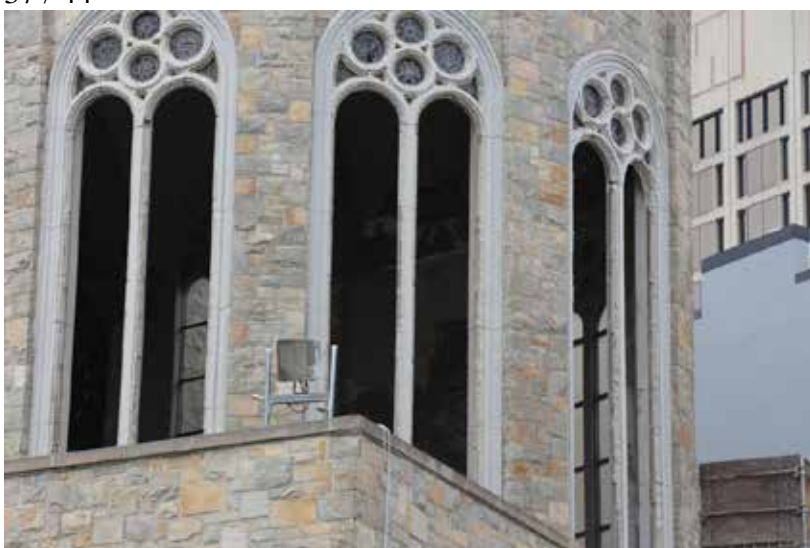


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Demolition of the Notre Dame Church slowly continued on June 27, 2018.



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