

March 9, 2007

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

City Council on March 5 to 8, 2007, referred the following Motion to the Executive Committee:

M24 Establish and Construct The Toronto Environmental Protection Centre (TEP) in the Eastern Portlands

Moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Thompson

SUMMARY:

To help the Federal government reach Canada's commitment to the Kyoto Protocol, Toronto needs to create resources for its citizens and businesses. One such centralized resource should be an Environmental Protection Centre where information could be disseminated, seminars could be held, questions could be asked and sustainable technologies could be purchased, spawned and nurtured.

For instance, to show Chicago's (Illinois, USA) commitment to reaching its environmental protection targets, especially a reduction in pollution emissions, Chicago's Mayor has established and constructed the Chicago Center for Green Technology. Chicago's centre is constructed using the LEED (Leader in Energy Efficiency in Design) Platinum standard and houses a small factory to produce solar panels on site.

Toronto should take its lead from Chicago and build a centre for excellence in environmental protection to lead Canada to reach our common reduction targets under the Kyoto Protocol.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Council instruct the City Manager and appropriate staff to investigate establishing a "Toronto Environmental Protection Centre" to implement the goals of the City of Toronto Environmental Plan, and findings of this investigation be reported to the June 2007 meeting of the Executive Committee.

2. Council instruct the City Manager and appropriate staff to investigate constructing an environmentally-friendly landmark building to be known as the “Toronto Environmental Protection Centre” on Toronto’s Eastern Portlands area and include provisions for such a landmark building in all future plans, design studies or Requests for Proposals regarding the Eastern Portlands portion of the Waterfront Revitalization Plan, and the findings of this investigation be reported to the June 2007 meeting of the Executive Committee.

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd