



REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Sewer Connection funding for the Toronto Urban Farm, Black Creek Pioneer Village

Date:	August 7, 2009
To:	Executive Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	Ward 9 – York Centre

City Council Decision

City Council on August 5 and 6, 2009, referred Motion MM38.18 to the Executive Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Augimeri, seconded by Councillor De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. The City of Toronto Council approve an allocation of \$175,000 to support the request for sewer connection for the Toronto Urban Farm.
2. The Toronto Urban Farm sewer connection project be added to the appropriate 2009 Capital Budget Program with an offset coming from the Toronto Water and Wastewater Reserve Fund for a net zero impact on the City's budget.

Summary

The Toronto Urban Farm, located at Black Creek Pioneer Village, is a City of Toronto and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority project that provides meaningful employment to youth from priority neighbourhoods, enhances leadership, employability and gardening skills and promotes healthy lifestyles and community engagement.

Toronto youth working on the farm harvest crops for niche markets and sell these crops to specialized caterers and restaurants with a portion donated to various community agencies that offer food security programs (i.e. Green Gardeners Group, Seeds of Diversity, Mustard Seed, and The Stop Community Food Centre). An educational component is offered through tours and presentations for schools, churches, organizations and two children's work camps are hosted during the season.

The current septic tank system located within Braeburn House used by students and staff is nearing the end of its lifespan and needs to be upgraded and connected to the City's sanitary sewer system.

(Submitted to City Council on August 5, 2009 as MM38.18)

Background Information (City Council)

Financial Impact Statement (August 6, 2009) from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer