City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

MM30.7	ACTION			Ward: All
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Developing a "Made in Toronto" Building Code - Moved by Councillor Palacio, seconded by Councillor Moscoe

•Notice of this Motion has been given.

•This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Growth Management Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations

1. That the City Manager and the Executive Director and Chief Building Official, Toronto Building, be requested to report to the Planning and Growth Management Committee on the feasibility of creating a protocol or mechanism for Toronto-specific adjustments to the Ontario Building Code, including through future amendments to the City of Toronto Act.

Summary

Despite the significant legislative independence and latitude gained by the City of Toronto as a result of the new City of Toronto Act, there remain some areas in which the City of Toronto should be able to exercise more autonomy.

One of these areas is the Ontario Building Code. As by far the largest urban area in Ontario, the City of Toronto faces unique challenges and has unique opportunities (such as the opportunities and challenges that result from density) that can only be realized through certain Building Code provisions tailored to Toronto's needs. Greener building standards and code provisions that deal with reducing noise between semi-detached buildings and row houses are just some examples of the many areas that Toronto residents' interests and balancing of priorities may not always align entirely with other municipalities in Ontario.

A mechanism for City Council to amend by by-law or recommend to the Minister, Torontospecific Building Code amendments and adjustments would be of great benefit for addressing these unique challenges and seizing these opportunities.

City Council - January 27, 2009