

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM51.22	ACTION			Ward:All
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**"Supporting a Midsummer Night's Run" - Charity Run in the Port Lands
- by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam**

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services to work with the Toronto Transit Commission to ensure a feasible route is permitted for a Midsummer Night's Run in the Port Lands.
2. City Council direct the Deputy City Managers for Clusters A and B to explore a potential reimbursement of the unintended costs incurred in 2013 and communicate the results to the race organizers and the local Councillor.

Summary

A Midsummer Night's Run has been a successful charity race operating in the east end for almost a decade in the Port Lands. In 2013 the race had to be relocated to the Toronto Islands due to the full closure of the Cherry Street Bridge and expected construction at the intersection of Leslie Street and Commissioners Road and the Martin Goodman Trail. Ultimately, there was no construction on Leslie Street so the race could have been reasonably accommodated in the Port Lands.

The use of the Toronto Islands increased the costs of operating the race by approximately \$25,000 as ferry tickets were required for all race participants and supplies needed to be moved to the Islands. Parks, Forestry and Recreation also double-permitted Olympic Island, which meant the race organizers had to relocate the finish area at the last minute. While the Run was reimbursed for Olympic Island, they did not receive any compensation for the additional ferry costs nor were refunds made available for tickets that were not used.

A Midsummer Night's Run expects to have 3,000 participants this year, including participants from the Greater Toronto Area, Quebec and abroad. Over the course of its operation, a Midsummer Night's Run has raised over \$260,000 for the Department of Rheumatology at

SickKids Hospital and expects to bring the total to over \$300,000 this year. The Run is coordinated entirely by volunteers, from top to bottom.

Unfortunately, due to the continued partial closure of the Cherry Street Bridge and ongoing TTC construction on Leslie Street, a Midsummer Night's Run is having difficulty securing permits for its preferred route. Past experience has shown that relocating the race is not feasible, and that the Run is a successful, well-supported community event.

(Submitted to City Council on May 6 and 7, 2014 as MM51.22)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM51.22