



## Decision Letter

### Executive Committee

<b>Meeting No.</b>	20	<b>Contact</b>	Jennifer Forkes, Committee Administrator
<b>Meeting Date</b>	Thursday, December 1, 2016	<b>Phone</b>	416-392-4666
<b>Start Time</b>	9:30 AM	<b>E-mail</b>	exc@toronto.ca
<b>Location</b>	Committee Room 1, City Hall	<b>Chair</b>	Mayor John Tory

EX20.34	ACTION	Amended		Ward:All
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### **Disability, Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee on Impact of 2.6 Percent Budget Reduction on People and Families Living with Disabilities**

#### **Committee Decision**

The Executive Committee:

1. Requested the Budget Committee during the 2017 budget process to consider the impact of all service improvements and changes to individuals and families living with disabilities.

#### **Origin**

(October 27, 2016) Letter from the Disability, Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

#### **Summary**

On July 12, 2016, City Council passed EX16.37 requesting an across the board budget cut of 2.6 percent net below the 2016 Approved Net Operating Budgets for all City Programs, Agencies, Toronto Community Housing Corporation, and Accountability Offices.

Since then I have heard from some of the agencies that help our most vulnerable citizens that an across-the-board budget cut would impact services and agencies that are vital to their wellbeing. This includes the Toronto Public Library Board, has said that a 2.6 percent cut would mean service reductions, the Toronto Public Health Board, who said that a 2.6 percent cut would stop low-income students from getting healthy snacks in our schools, and from Toronto Community Housing Corporation who said that a 2.6 percent cut would force the closure of some units.

What ties these cuts together is their impact on our most vulnerable residents, residents that include those with disabilities. It's not just our libraries, and schools and housing. It will include our parks, our recreational programming, our transit system and our shelter system. A 2.6 percent budget cut will create new challenges and burden residents who are already marginalized including our seniors, our newcomers and those struggling with poverty.

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 requires us to remove barriers for individuals with physical or mental disabilities, be the barrier physical, architectural, informational, attitudinal, technological or through a policy or a practice. A 2.6 percent budget

cut will only serve to create new barriers by denying our most vulnerable residents the critical city services they need.

### **Background Information**

(October 27, 2016) Letter from the Disability, Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee on Impact of 2.6 Percent Budget Reduction on People and Families Living with Disabilities

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-97855.pdf>)

(October 27, 2016) Letter from Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam on Impact of 2.6 Percent Budget Reduction on People and Families Living with Disabilities

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-97852.pdf>)

### **Speakers**

Miroslav Glavic