

 **TORONTO** **Glenn De Baeremaeker**
City Councillor - Ward 38, Scarborough Centre



May 9, 2017

Dear Chair and members of Community Development and Recreation Committee:

Please accept this letter as my request to add a new item of business onto the May 10, 2017 meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

As you may know, the Government Management Committee unanimously approved a Below Market Rent for the South Asian Autism Awareness Centre at 705 Progress Avenue in Scarborough. A number of other local community groups have expressed interest in using some of these old industrial, city-owned units for their charitable works. These groups include organizations such as the Vasanthan Tamil Seniors Organization, the Frontline Community Services, Tropicana Community Services, the Toronto Tool Library and Turtlehouse (a Syrian refugee integration program), in addition to existing groups such as the Canadian Tamil Youth Development and Urban Cats Relief.

The City Parks department is also in the planning stages of building a new City park on this 10 acre property that is jointly owned by the City of Toronto and the Toronto District School Board.

I am requesting that the Community Development and Recreation Committee adopt the following motion:

City Council direct the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration and the Chief Corporate Officer, to consult with stakeholders (including the Toronto District School Board and community stakeholders such as South Asian Autism Awareness Centre, Canadian Tamil Youth Development, Urban Cats Relief, Turtlehouse, Tropicana Community Services, Vasanthan Tamil Seniors Organization, and Toronto Tool Library) to determine the feasibility of establishing a community hub as part of the new City Park to be created in 2018/2019 at 705 Progress Avenue and report back to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at: 416-392-0204.

Cheers,

Glenn De Baeremaeker
City Councillor, Ward 38