

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM1.13	ACTION			Ward: 15
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Initiating an urgent needs assessment for additional community facilities in the underserved Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood - by Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to initiate a comprehensive needs assessment for the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood and submit a report on the findings to the Economic and Community Development Committee in the second quarter of 2019.
2. City Council direct the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services, in consultation with appropriate staff, to identify a site or sites which may be appropriate for acquisition for a new community centre in the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood and report to the Economic and Community Development Committee on the findings.

Summary

Thorncliffe Park is a dense, apartment neighbourhood located in Ward 15 – Don Valley West. The population is rapidly increasing as a growing number of new immigrants to Canada move into the area. The 2016 census found that 89 percent of the households in Thorncliffe Park are rental units. Approximately 69 percent of the residents of Thorncliffe Park are first-generation Canadians and more than 73 percent do not speak English as a first language.

There is a large, underserved youth population in Thorncliffe Park. Almost 30 percent of the population is under the age of 15, while approximately 53 percent of households have an average combined income of less than \$50,000 dollars.

Community facilities contribute to the economic, health, and social well-being of a neighbourhood. They also play an important role in community-building, placemaking, and inclusion, particularly in communities with below-average household incomes.

The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan 2019-2038 specifically identifies Thorncliffe

Park as an area where additional program space requirements may emerge due to high growth and the demonstrated need for additional community amenities. A needs assessment is required to evaluate the current and projected population of Thorncliffe Park, with a specific focus on the large population of youth under the age of 18.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM1.13