TORONTO **Member Motion**

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM23.32	ACTION			Ward:5

Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds, 5055 Dundas Street West to the Toronto Community Housing Corporation for Capital Improvements to the TCHC - owned Mabelle Avenue Parkette, 52 Mabelle Avenue and adjacent greenspace - by Councillor Peter Milczyn, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes

**** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.***
**** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral.***
**** This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.***

Recommendations

Councillor Peter Milczyn, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2012 Operating Budget for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Division by $150,000.00 gross, $0 net, fully funded by Section 37 funds received in the development at 5055 Dundas Street West (source account XR3026- 3700253), for transfer to Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) for capital improvements to the the TCHC-owned Mabelle Avenue parkette, 52 Mabelle Avenue and adjacent greenspace.

2. City Council direct that these funds be used by the Toronto Community Housing Corporation for capital improvements to the parkette and greenspace to the south of 52 Mabelle Avenue, used by residents of this community housing neighbourhood, and in particular for the implementation of the Mabelle Community Spaces Improvement plan as developed by Mabelle Arts (Park of Many Paths).

3. City Council direct that implementation of these capital improvements by the Toronto Community Housing Corporation be carried out with prior consultation and input from both the local Councillor and Mabelle Arts relating to the scope and details of the project.

4. City Council direct that the funds be transferred to the Toronto Community Housing Corporation upon the signing by TCHC of an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

Summary

The Artistic Director of Mabelle Arts met with Councillor Milczyn last year to present their

plan for the neglected park space adjacent to the TCHC affordable housing building at 52 Mabelle. This greenspace has not had a capital injection, or regular ongoing maintenance, for many years. Mabelle Arts volunteers and the surrounding TCHC community have nurtured and maintained this greenspace for a number of years, and have been working on developing an artistic design/plan for the park space.

Mabelle Arts mandate is to use the arts to transform neglected public spaces into a safe, beautiful animated community space with needed lighting, a new art mosaic pathway project that honours stories collected from residents of this neighbourhood and their diverse experiences in creating a new home in Canada, new lighting, a gazebo that will foster communal and family activities.

This small greenspace has the potential to be revitalized and result in a public space to enjoy, interact and participate in arts and culture.

Section 37 funds in the amount of $425,000 have been secured in the development at 5055 Dundas St. W., approved by the Ontario Municipal Board in July, 2000, of which 50 percent plus interest has been received to date, for the purposes of affordable housing and public art. The proposed implementation of the greenspace improvement plan for TCHC's Mabelle Avenue parkette is in accord with the purposes of the funds as stated in the Section 37 agreement.

(Submitted to City Council on May 8 and 9, 2012 as MM23.32)