TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM26.4	ACTION			Ward:All

Province of Ontario to Amend the Ontario Building Code with Respect to Back Water Valves and Sump Pumps - by Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford

**** Notice of this Motion has been given.***
**** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.***

Recommendations

Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford, recommends that:

1. City Council call upon the Government of Ontario to amend the Ontario Building Code to require the installation of back water valves and sump pumps in all newly constructed homes.

2. City Council further call upon the Government of Ontario to amend the Ontario Building Code to require the installation of back water valves and sump pumps in homes undergoing major basement renovations which create or upgrade a living space.

Summary

In July 2012, a significant number of homes within the City of Toronto experienced basement flooding as a result of a major storm. Many of these homes have experienced multiple floods in the past number of years. It is widely accepted that back water valves and sump pumps would have limited if not actually precluded the flooding of these homes. In view of the fact that climate conditions continue to evolve and Toronto and the Province generally are experiencing increasingly more significant rainfall events, it is advisable that the Ontario Building Code be amended to require builders undertaking new home construction or residents undertaking significant basement renovations which create or upgrade a basement living space to install back water valves and sump pumps.

(Submitted to City Council on October 2 and 3, 2012, as MM26.4)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM26.4
(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2012/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-50423.pdf)