

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM32.11	ACTION			Ward:18
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds to the Toronto District School Board towards Capital Improvements to the Playground at Perth Avenue Junior Public School - by Councillor Ana Bailão seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** 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 Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2013 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$100,000 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained in the development at 800 Lansdowne Avenue, (source account XR3026-3700320), for the purpose of forwarding funds to the Toronto District School Board for capital improvements to the school playgrounds at Perth Avenue Junior Public School, and more specifically a new 4-lane rubber surfaced running track, new asphalt play area and upgrades to the ball hockey and basketball play areas.
2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board once the Toronto District School Board has signed an Undertaking governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements and reasonable public access requirements.

Summary

Section 37 funds in the amount of \$250,000 were secured, and have been received, in the development at 800 Lansdowne Avenue, for community benefits in the Wallace-Emerson Community.

Perth Avenue Public School and St. Luigi Catholic School are two schools that serve 600 inner city students in the Junction Triangle area of Toronto and 140 children in the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club. Perth Avenue Public School and St. Luigi Catholic School are joint Toronto District School Board/Toronto Catholic District School Board schools servicing students from JK to Grade 8. Their multicultural student population represents over 16 different language groups.

Presently, their playground is a barren flat stretch of pavement. The project includes construction of a 600 foot diameter, 4 lane track in poured in place Rubber Safety Surfacing. Upkeep costs are minimal and involve the simple sweeping of the surface to remove debris. The Toronto District School Board has approved the development of the project as well as committed to the site maintenance. The Phase 1 improvements also include a new asphalt play area in the centre of the track and minor improvements to the ball hockey and basketball play areas, with optional tree planting, seating and parking lot gate, bringing the total cost to between \$147,000 and \$241,000. Funding from other sources of \$50,000 has been committed.

The Section 37 Implementation Guidelines approved by Council in 2007 state the following (section 5.7):

"Cash contributions toward the capital improvement of school board playgrounds are eligible S.37 community benefits where the playground serves as a local park, where the public will continue to have reasonable access for the foreseeable future, and where there is no local City-owned parkland performing a similar function in the same community that could otherwise benefit from the cash contribution."

The playground does and will continue to serve the local community as parkland, and no other local park has these types of facilities. The Undertaking to be signed by the Toronto District School Board will contain provisions securing continued public access to the school grounds, as well as the financial reporting requirements.

(Submitted to City Council on April 3 and 4, 2013 as MM32.11)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM32.11