
City Council

Motion without Notice

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| MM32.20 | ACTION | | | Ward:All |
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Property Insurance Relief for Basement Flooding Protection Program Neighbourhoods - by Councillor Anthony Perruzza, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Anthony Perruzza, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. The City of Toronto provide annual details of the completed Basement Flooding Protection Program upgrades to the Ombudsman of Ontario, the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario and the ombudsmen of property insurance companies that do business in Ontario.
2. City Council request the Government of Ontario to make the necessary legislative/regulatory changes that would require insurance companies to lower their property insurance rates in neighbourhoods that have had their sewers upgraded.

Summary

In the Fall of 2009, the City of Toronto launched its Basement Flooding Protection Program to upgrade the sewer infrastructure in identified communities across the City and to make flood impacted communities much more flood resistant during major storms. This substantial investment has made improvements to neighbourhoods which experienced chronic basement flooding due to backed up sewers during significant rainfall.

As a result of basement flooding, many property insurance companies increased their property insurance rates in affected neighbourhoods and in certain cases refused to insure properties against flooding. Follow up with residents in neighbourhoods where sewer upgrades have

occurred has revealed that many Torontonians continue to pay very high property insurance premiums or are unable to secure property insurance despite the sewer improvements made by the City that greatly diminishes basement flooding.

This urgent matter must be reviewed in a timely manner to help affected property owners achieve fair treatment with regards to their property insurance coverage.

(Submitted to City Council on April 3 and 4, 2013 as MM32.20)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM32.20