



Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM37.58	ACTION			
---------	--------	--	--	--

Financial Assistance for Damage Caused by the Storm on July 8, 2013 - by Councillor Peter Milczyn, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette

** 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 Sarah Doucette, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to ensure that a thorough assessment of all damage caused to both private and public property by the storm and the subsequent flooding of July 8, 2013 is undertaken.
2. City Council request the City Manager to ensure that an expedited process be put in place to review storm and flooding damage claims against the City of Toronto.
3. City Council request the City Manager to seek financial assistance from the Provincial and Federal governments for damage to private and public property caused by the flooding of watercourses within the City of Toronto.
4. City Council request the City Manager in consultation with Toronto Water and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, to prepare a report to the Executive Committee before the end of 2013 on budgetary and other requirements to minimize the impact of similar future storm events on private and public property within the City of Toronto.
5. City Council request the City Manager to report to the Executive Committee before the end of 2013 on the City of Toronto response to the storm event, and in particular on improvements to how Civil authorities can communicate with the public during an extended power outage.
6. City Council request the City Manager to work with Toronto Hydro on an enhanced communication plan for emergencies such as this and to report back to Executive Committee before the end of 2013.

Summary

An extraordinary meteorological event took place on July 8, 2013 where 126 mm of rain fell in a brief period of time when a storm system became stationary over parts of the City of Toronto. This record setting rainfall caused extensive flooding due to overloading the storm sewer system, overland flooding, overflowing watercourses within the City, and sewer back up into homes and businesses.

This was subsequently exacerbated by an extended power outage to over 300,000 Toronto Hydro customers. Some areas were without power for over 48 hours.

A thorough assessment of all damage caused by this event to both private and public property needs to be undertaken to understand the insured and uninsured losses suffered, the impact on the City's budget from claims and infrastructure damage.

With so many property owners, tenants, and businesses affected by sewer back-up problems that arose from the storm an expedited process to handle claims is necessary. Those who suffered losses need to understand as soon as possible what compensation they may be eligible to receive.

(Submitted to City Council on July 16 and 17, 2013 as MM37.58)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM37.58