

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM39.12	ACTION			Ward:All
---------	--------	--	--	----------

Higher Standards of Safety in High Rises - by Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Licensing and Standards Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Chief, Emergency Medical Services to report back on the cost or legal requirements to implement the following safety standards:
 - a. during a medical emergency, Paramedics be granted the right of access to front door and emergency elevator override keys; and
 - b. Automatic External Defibrillators be installed in all high-rise developments in Toronto, and be enrolled as part of Toronto EMS' Safe City program, with the cost borne by the applicant.

Summary

Response times during certain life-threatening medical emergencies are critical to survival rates. In particular, when paramedics are responding to stroke and heart attack victims, one or two minute delays can be the difference between life and death. Currently, only the fire department and its first responders have access to emergency elevator keys located in the fire panel on the ground floors of most high rises. Paramedics need legal access to that same key in order to provide residents of Toronto with the best service possible.

Additionally, Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) have also proved their value in life-threatening situations. Requiring all high-rises to have AEDs, and requiring these units to be enrolled in the City's program for monitoring and deployment of AEDs, will also help to save lives.

(Submitted to City Council on October 8 and 9, 2013 as MM39.12)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM39.12

