Authorization to reimburse expenses undertaken by volunteers to improve the City's Feral Cat Recovery Centre - by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher

* 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 Glenn De Baeremaeker, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize Toronto Animal Services (TAS) staff to cover the costs of improvements, up to a maximum of $6,000, from the already Council approved $20,000 allocation for improvements to the Feral Cat Recovery Centre, by reimbursing volunteers for expenses they incurred to provide paint, floor polish/waterproofing, caging, storage, electrical upgrades, lighting and plumbing improvements, start-up supplies, etc. on a one-time basis subject to submitting all receipts and documentation to the satisfaction of TAS staff and adhering to all City of Toronto financial control policies and by-laws.

Summary
In July, 2013 City Council approved a $20,000 allocation towards improvements to the Feral Cat Recovery Centre located at 705 Progress Avenue for items such as caging, traps, HVAC, odour control, industrial washers and dryers, etc. (EX33.27, July 16 to 19, 2013)

Volunteers who assist Toronto Animal Services had recently undertaken improvements to the recovery centre using their own volunteer labour and using their own funds in order to ensure the centre was operational for the 2013 kitten season.

Volunteers have requested that they be reimbursed for expenses incurred during 2013 that enabled the recovery centre to operate safely and efficiently.

Toronto Animal Services staff have met with the volunteers and recognize the volunteer improvements have helped the City achieve its feral cat trap-neuter-return objectives, but
cannot reimburse volunteers without Council authorization.

(Submitted to City Council on November 13 and 14, 2013 as MM41.22)

**Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM41.22