Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds to the Toronto District School Board towards an Outdoor Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon

* 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 Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2014 Operating Budget for Non-Program by $45,000 gross, $0 net, fully funded by $32,246 of Section 37 community benefits obtained in the development of 201 Carlaw Avenue and 66 Boston Avenue (Source Account: XR3026-3700270) and $12,754 from 319 Carlaw Avenue (Source Account XR3026-3700371) for the purpose of forwarding funds to the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) for capital improvements to the grounds at Roden Equinox Public School, and more specifically for the Outdoor Learning Commons.

2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board once the Toronto District School Board has signed a Community Access Agreement with the City, governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and addressing community access to the improved facilities, drawn up in consultation with the Ward Councillor.

3. City Council authorize the execution of a Community Access Agreement with the Toronto District School Board for the capital improvements to the grounds at Roden/Equinox Public School, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor.

4. City Council request the Director of Community Planning to participate in the preparation of the Community Access Agreement and request the City Solicitor to draw up the Agreement, in consultation with the Ward Councillor and Community Planning staff.
Summary
This Motion seeks to support the Roden/Equinox Public School Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School. Roden/Equinox Public School serves a diverse community and has been an integral part of the Coxwell and Gerrard neighbourhood since 1907. Over the years, it has undergone many structural changes to accommodate the growing needs of the student population and the community.

Roden was completely rebuilt as an open concept school in 1969 - all teaching areas open into a shared space called a "common area". Revitalizing the available green space and creating an outdoor learning opportunity is a priority for the school community. The revitalized outdoor area will feature a vibrant environment with extra seating, environmentally sensitive learning areas, native plantings and outdoor classrooms.

Section 37 funds in the amount of $75,000 plus accrued interest have been secured and received in the developments at 201 Carlaw Avenue and 66 Boston Avenue and $20,000 plus accrued interest have been secured and received in the development of 319 Carlaw Avenue.

This Motion proposes to provide a total of $45,000 to the Toronto District School Board towards the cost of the Outdoor Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School. The Community Access Agreement to be signed by the Toronto District School Board will contain provisions governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and access to the revitalized grounds at Roden/Equinox Public School. The Community Access Agreement will be executed between the City and the Toronto District School Board, drawn up in consultation with the local Councillor.

(Submitted to City Council on May 6 and 7, 2014 as MM51.40)

Background Information (City Council)
Member Motion MM51.40
(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2014/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-69063.pdf)