TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM55.1	ACTION			Ward:30

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 Janet Davis

**** City Council on July 8, 9, 10 and 11, 2014, waived referral of this Motion. City Council subsequently deferred this Motion to the August 25 and 26, 2014 meeting.***
**** This Motion is before Council for debate.***

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Janet Davis, recommends that:

1. Upon the coming into force and effect of site specific by-law amendments for the lands known as 201 Carlaw Avenue and 66 Boston Avenue and for the lands known as 319 Carlaw Avenue, City Council increase the approved 2014 Operating Budget for Non-Program by $45,000.00 gross, $0 net, fully funded by $32,246.00 of Section 37 community benefits obtained in the development of 201 Carlaw Avenue and 66 Boston Avenue (Source Account: XR3026-3700270) and $12,754.00 from 319 Carlaw Avenue (Source Account XR3026-3700371) for the purpose of forwarding funds to the Toronto District School Board 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 School Board has entered into 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, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor, prepared in consultation with the General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation and the Ward Councillor.

3. City Council request the Director, Community Planning to co-ordinate preparation of the Community Access Agreement by the City Solicitor and to participate in preparation of the terms and conditions in consultation with the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the Ward Councillor as directed in Part 2 above.

4. City Council authorize City Officials to execute a Community Access Agreement with the Toronto District School Board to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor, General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation and the Ward Councillor.

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.

At the May 6, 7 and 8, 2014 meeting, Toronto City Council requested staff to bring forward an amendment to By-law No. 706-2006 respecting 201 Carlaw Avenue and 66 Boston Avenue to reallocate the funds previously secured for local park improvements towards the Outdoor Learning Commons at Morse Street Public School and towards the Outdoor Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School. In addition, Toronto City Council requested staff to bring forward an amendment to By-law No. 413-2009 (OMB) respecting 319 Carlaw Avenue to reallocate part of the funds previously secured for park bench beautification towards the Outdoor Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School. City Council further directed that any of the funds previously allocated towards specific projects that had not been spent, including accrued interest, were to be reallocated to alternative community benefits including: local park improvements; streetscape improvements; community facility improvement; public art; community gardens; pedestrian and cycling facilities; and heritage related improvements. With respect to the reallocation, City Council requested the Director, Community Planning to consider reallocation of the funds previously allocated toward specific projects that had not been spent, together with accrued interest, towards current community needs and to co-ordinate with funds that have been secured through other Section 37 Agreements which affect the local area. Staff were also to co-ordinate amendments to the applicable Section 37 Agreement with the current owner of the subject lands.

On June 17, 2014, Toronto and East York Community Council (TEYCC) adopted amendments to Site Specific Zoning By-law 705-2006, for the lands known as 201 Carlaw Avenue and 66 Boston Avenue. The amendments adopted by TEYCC would reallocate $75,000 of the funds collected under Section 37, together with any accrued interest, toward improvements at the Outdoor Learning Commons at Morse Street Public School and the Outdoor Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School, provided arrangements satisfactory to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation are made with the School Boards for public access.

TEYCC also adopted amendments to Site Specific Zoning By-law Site Specific 413-2009 (OMB) on June 17, 2014, for the lands known as 319 Carlaw Avenue. The amendments adopted by TEYCC would reallocate $20,000 of the funds collected under Section 37 as follows: $7,246 for park bench beautification in the area of the site; and $12,754 for improvements at the Outdoor Learning Commons at Roden/Equinox Public School, provided arrangements satisfactory to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation are made with the School Board for public access.

This Motion proposes to provide a total of $45,000 of Section 37 funds to the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) towards the cost of the Outdoor Learning Commons at Rodent/Equinox

Public School, upon the revised by-laws coming into force and effect and the execution of a Community Access Agreement with the TDSB for the capital improvements to the grounds at Roden Equinox Public School, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor.

The Community Access Agreement to be signed by the TDSB 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 TDSB, drawn up in consultation with the local Councillor.

(Submitted to City Council on August 25 and 26, 2014 as MM55.1)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM55.1