Support of Private Member's Bill 24: Prohibiting Driving with Unlawful Handguns Act, 2014 - by Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Josh Colle

* 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 Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Josh Colle, recommends that:


2. City Council direct the City Clerk to convey City Council's endorsement of Bill 24 to the Province of Ontario.

Summary
On July 23, 2014, M.P.P. Mike Colle introduced a Private Member's Bill proposing an addition to the Highway Traffic Act and an amendment to the Civic Remedies Act, 2011, making the act of driving a motor vehicle in which there is an unlawfully possessed handgun illegal, and introducing penalties for committing this offence.

The penalties proposed by Bill 24 for driving a vehicle in which there is an unlawfully possessed handgun are modeled after the street racing provisions of the Highway Traffic Act contained in the Safer Roads for a Safe Ontario Act, 2007. Upon conviction, a fine of $2,000 to $10,000 would be imposed, and/or imprisonment for up to six months. The driver's licence of a convicted offender would also be suspended for one year upon first conviction, five years for a second conviction, and indefinitely if convicted a third time.

In addition to the above penalties upon conviction, similar to the provisions of the Safer Roads for a Safe Ontario Act, 2007, the enactment of Bill 24 would allow police officers with reasonable and probably grounds to believe an offence was committed to request the surrender of the driver's licence and impoundment of the vehicle for seven days.

While this will not eliminate illegal handguns from our communities, it will be another tool for police to use in trying to keep these guns off of our streets.
(Submitted to City Council on August 25 and 26, 2014 as MM55.10)

**Background Information (City Council)**
Member Motion MM55.10
Private Member's Bill 24: Prohibiting Driving with Unlawful Handguns Act, 2014
(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2014/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-72921.pdf)