

## City Council

### Notice of Motion

MM9.35	ACTION			Ward:20
--------	--------	--	--	---------

**Release of Section 45 Funds for Improvements to Alex Wilson Community Garden - by Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette**

*\* 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 Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2015 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$31,500.00 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 45 funds obtained in the development at 560-572 King Street West and 457 Adelaide Street West (source account: XR3028-4500064), for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to the Alex Wilson Community Garden Corporation for capital improvements to Alex Wilson Community Garden (cost centre: NP2161).
2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to the Alex Wilson Community Garden Corporation (AWCGC) upon the signing of an Undertaking by the AWCGC governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

### Summary

Since its inception in 1997, the Alex Wilson Community Garden (AWCG) has provided food and flower growing allotments to hundreds of people, while offering a pedestrian corridor and quiet green space for residents and visitors in the Queen and Bathurst neighbourhood. The land was originally gifted by a local family to the City of Toronto, and a conservation easement was registered on title – to the Alex Wilson Community Garden Corporation, a registered charity. The easement stipulates that the land is to remain a community garden in perpetuity.

This area of the City has seen a rapid population increase over the last 5 years, and has been identified as deficient in green space. Over the 18 years the Garden has been open, wear and tear, graffiti, and cumulative damage to the native plant beds have taken a toll on the site. This project will repair and improve the garden to its original condition while preparing it for another successful 20 years serving the local community. The project will include the restoration and replanting of 43 native plant species throughout the garden, prune and/or remove diseased or damaged trees and vines, and replant where needed, and replace the memorial tree at the south entrance.

Funds in the amount of \$175,000 plus accrued interest have been secured and received as a condition of approval of a minor variance (Section 45) application for a development at 560-572 King Street West and 457 Adelaide Street West (Committee of Adjustment file A0074/10TEY) for a number of purposes including parks improvements in the area. Since the City has received these funds, a number of capital projects have been funded for these purposes and sufficient funds remain available for the proposed improvements to Alex Wilson Community Garden.

The intent of this Motion is to transfer a total of \$31,500 of Section 45 funds from a development at 560-572 King Street West and 457 Adelaide Street West (Committee of Adjustment file A0074/10TEY) to the Alex Wilson Community Garden Corporation to provide one-time capital funding for the purpose of improvements to Alex Wilson Community Garden.

The Alex Wilson Community Garden Corporation will sign an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements prior to the funds being released from the City.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM9.35