

EX15.24



Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

PW12.15		Referred		Ward:All
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Federal Infrastructure Funding for Active Transportation Projects in Toronto

City Council Decision

City Council on May 3, 4 and 5, 2016, referred Item PW12.15 to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Committee Recommendations

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee recommends that:

1. City Council request the Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities to allocate federal infrastructure funding to active transportation projects in the City of Toronto, such projects to potentially include the West Toronto Railpath and East Don Trail, among others.

Committee Decision Advice and Other Information

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee agreed to consider Items PW12.1, PW12.2, PW12.3 and PW12.15 together.

Origin

(March 30, 2016) Letter from Councillor Jaye Robinson

Summary

Toronto is a city that moves. Public interest in active transportation alternatives, such as walking and cycling, is growing rapidly as residents seek out healthy, sustainable and affordable modes of getting around our city.

Federal infrastructure funding can help accelerate investments in active transportation projects in Toronto. It can also help us leverage valuable synergies with public transit and environmentally sustainable infrastructure spending.

The City of Toronto has identified a number of projects designed to grow, connect and renew cycling and multi-use infrastructure in our city.

The West Toronto Railpath extension and East Don Trail are two examples of municipal projects that would benefit from federal infrastructure funding. Currently in the detailed design phase, the West Toronto Railpath Extension is estimated to cost \$23 million to build, with construction scheduled for 2017. Funding for construction of the extension is not currently assigned.

The East Don Trail, a multi-use trail system under study in a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA), is estimated to cost \$26 million and is currently unfunded. Both of these projects would expand active transportation options for residents across Toronto.

In light of the Government of Canada's \$5 billion commitment over the next five years to strengthening green infrastructure, additional funding for active transportation projects in Toronto would accelerate their implementation and thereby positively impact neighbourhood livability, congestion, public health and efforts to reduce emissions.

Background Information (Committee)

(March 30, 2016) Letter from Councillor Jaye Robinson on Federal Infrastructure Funding for Active Transportation Projects in Toronto

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-91668.pdf>)

Communications (Committee)

(April 22, 2016) E-mail from Hamish Wilson (PW.New.PW12.15.1)

Communications (City Council)

(February 25, 2016) Submission from Hamish Wilson (CC.Supp.PW12.15.2)

Speakers

Hamish Wilson

Jared Kolb, Executive Director, Cycle Toronto