

**City Council****Notice of Motion**

MM20.29	ACTION			Ward:36
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**Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds to Community Matters Toronto for Mural Art on Bell Utility Boxes in Ward 36 - by Councillor Gary Crawford, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside**

*\* 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 Gary Crawford, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2016 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$9,600.00 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained in the development at south-east corner of Kingston Road and Victoria Park Avenue (source account: XR3026- 3700156) for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to Community Matters Toronto to complete eight murals on Bell Boxes in various locations within Ward 36 (cost centre: NP2161).
2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to Community Matters Toronto upon the signing of an Undertaking by Community Matters Toronto that governs the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

**Summary**

The Bell Box Murals Project is a program of Community Matters Toronto. Since 2009, artists from the Bell Boxes Murals Project have painted 127 murals on Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in 20 communities throughout Toronto, Southern Ontario and Quebec.

The benefits of the Bell Boxes Murals Project include:

- replaces graffiti and vandalism with original works of art;
- makes the streets more inviting to residents and visitors;
- enhances residents' sense of community;
- art is accessible to all people, regardless of income, language or social stature;
- creates a public art channel to reflect local culture and heritage; and
- provides income and opportunities for local artists

The Bell Boxes Murals Project is a partnership between Community Matters Toronto and Bell Canada. Project partners have included StreetARToronto (City of Toronto), Centre for Social Innovation, Enterprising NonProfits Toronto, Mural Routes, Cabbagetown BIA, St. Lawrence

Market BIA, Bay Cloverhill Community Association, Greater Yorkville Residents Association, Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association, Danforth East Community Association, Malvern Family Resource Centre, the town of Essex, Ontario, Whitby, Ontario, and the City of Gatineau, Quebec.

Community Matters Toronto (St. James Town Family Literacy Services) is a neighbourhood group of 90 part time staff volunteers from the community of St. James Town organizing a variety of programs and services for over 500 new comers each month. Our motto is "Neighbours Helping Neighbours" and the programs and services are designed and provided by residents within the community who represent a variety of cultures, religions and education levels.

Section 37 funds in the amount of \$50,000 (plus indexing and interest) have been secured and received in the development at the south-east corner of Kingston Road and Victoria Park Avenue (1085 Kingston Road) for the provision of community facilities. "Community facilities" as identified in the implementing by-law can include the use of funds for the creation of public art on Bell utility boxes.

The intent of this Motion is to transfer a total of \$9,600 of Section 37 funds from the development at 1085 Kingston Road to Community Matters Toronto to provide one-time capital funding for the purpose of painting murals on eight Bell utility boxes located in various Ward 36 locations.

Prior to the funds being released from the City, Community Matters Toronto will be required to sign an Undertaking that governs the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

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

Member Motion MM20.29