

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM20.2	ACTION			Ward:All
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Enabling New Tri-level Initiatives to Increase Community Safety in Toronto - by Mayor John Tory, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti

** 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

Mayor John Tory, seconded by Councillor Vincent Crisanti, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to allocate \$50,000 for eligible costs from the 2016 Community Safety Investment Funding program to target locally-driven neighbourhood activities that immediately respond to critical incidences of violence as the City of Toronto contribution to the Intervention Fund and to begin funding allocations in July 2016.
2. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to receive up to \$750,000 in funding from Provincial and Federal governments, and the Toronto Community Housing Corporation and allocate to community safety initiatives that immediately respond to critical incidences of violence beginning in July 2016.
3. City Council increase the 2016 Social Development, Finance and Administration Operating Budget by \$750,000 gross and zero net, on a one-time basis to support community safety initiatives.
4. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to enter into purchase of service agreements for the delivery of the Pre-Charge Diversion Program with the successful proponents of a Request for Proposal process on the proviso that:
 - a. the successful proponents of the Pre-Charge Diversion Program comply with all applicable requirements under the purchase of service agreement; and
 - b. the agreements shall be in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and contain such other items and conditions as the City Solicitor may deem advisable.

Summary

To respond to a significant increase in violent critical incidents across the City, Mayor Tory joined the federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, the Ontario Attorney General, the Ontario Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and the Toronto Police Chief on June 30, 2016 to announce joint support for three new community safety initiatives for immediate implementation.

A New Intervention Fund

The City of Toronto, in partnership with Toronto Community Housing, will create an Intervention Fund to provide services to communities where a violent act has taken place that has had impact on the living conditions, health or coping capacity of local residents. The funds will enable communities to immediately implement their own crisis response activities to address neighbourhood violence. Services will include counselling support, provision of safe places outside the community for healing sessions, focus groups, creation of neighbourhood crisis response teams, youth engagement programs and relationship-building activities with the Toronto Police Service.

The fund will support community-led activities that complement the work of the City's Community Crisis Response Fund. Fifty-thousand dollars from the 2016 Community Safety Investment funding program can be targeted towards locally-driven intervention activities with net zero impact to the City.

Expansion of the FOCUS Program

The Province of Ontario will provide temporary resources to expand the Furthering Our Community by Uniting Services (FOCUS) program across the City through their Situation Table initiative. This innovative community safety and well-being initiative led by the City, United Way Toronto, and the Toronto Police Service aims to reduce crime, victimization and improve community resiliency and well-being.

FOCUS brings a multi-agency team of local health providers, social workers, housing workers, justice professionals, mental health workers, youth workers and police to a weekly situation table. Together the team identifies individuals, groups and places that are at a high risk of being involved in criminal behaviour or harm to community members. By leveraging the skills and resources of the situation table partners, an intervention approach is determined and is acted upon immediately.

A New Pre-Charge Diversion Program

Ontario and Canada are also joining the City to invest in piloting a Pre-Charge Diversion Program will across Toronto. This program aims to better leverage existing programs for support youth (ages 12 to 17) who have been accused of a criminal offence. As an alternative to facing criminal charges and going to court, some youth may be referred by police to attend a community program that will provide them with supports to reduce the roots of criminal activity.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM20.2