

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM22.9	ACTION			Ward:All
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Ensuring a Robust Hotel Supply to Strengthen Tourism - by Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, in consultation with the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to provide an analysis and report on:
 - a. an analysis of Toronto's current hotel and motel capacity in relation to the annual tourism performance and Meetings, Convention and Incentive Travel rates;
 - b. the potential impacts that hotel redevelopment projects and a resulting reduction in hotel rooms could have on Toronto's tourism, hospitality and convention industries;
 - c. a summary of hotel redevelopment projects that are under review, in development and/or completed within the last ten years;
 - d. recommendations including potential planning tools to strengthen Toronto's hotel, tourism, hospitality, and convention industries; and
 - e. consultation with trade unions, the Greater Toronto Hotel Association, Tourism Toronto, Invest Toronto, and related stakeholders in order to report to the Economic Development Committee in the third quarter of 2017.

Summary

As Toronto continues to grow, there has been an increasing number of hotels being redeveloped into residential condominiums, removing hotel space from the market. The most recent proposal would reduce the number of hotel rooms at the Courtyard by Marriott near Yonge and College from 575 to 289 hotel rooms. The Eaton Chelsea Hotel redevelopment proposal near Yonge and Gerrard goes even further, retaining just under 20 percent of the 1,590 hotel rooms that currently exist on the site.

Meetings, Convention and Incentive Travel sales have been increasing year over year in Toronto, representing an important component of Toronto's tourist and business sectors. A strong and vibrant hotel industry with a sufficient number of hotel rooms and meeting space is essential to the economic health of Toronto. In 2015, over 40 million people visited Toronto, spending \$7.2 billion on transportation, accommodation, restaurants, entertainment and retail – creating jobs and opportunities for residents.

It is important that we analyze and consider the impacts that hotel redevelopments may have on Toronto's tourism/convention business and develop possible strategies to ensure that these industries remain strong in light of development pressure.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM22.9