MM24.1  ACTION  Ward:29

Release of Section 45(9) funds from the Development at 1042-1048 Broadview Avenue to the Toronto District School Board for School Ground Improvements at Chester Elementary School - by Councillor Mary Fragedakis, 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 Mary Fragedakis, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2017 Operating Budget for Non-Program subsequent to the adoption of this budget by $10,360.40 gross, $0 net, (cost centre: NP2161) fully funded by Section 45 funds obtained in the development at 1042-1048 Broadview Avenue (source account: XR3028-4500088), for the purpose of providing one-time capital funding to the Toronto District School Board for purpose of school ground improvements at the Chester Elementary School and Westwood Middle School property.

2. City Council request City staff from the Management Services Branch of the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to participate in the preparation of the Community Access Agreement and City Council request the City Solicitor to draw up the Agreement, in consultation with the Ward Councillor and Community Planning staff.

3. City Council authorize the execution of a Community Access Agreement with the Toronto District School Board for the purpose of school ground improvements at the Chester Elementary School and Westwood Middle School property, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor and the Ward Councillor.

4. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board once the Toronto District School Board has signed a Community Access Agreement with the City, governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and addressing community access.

Summary

Chester Elementary School is located in the North of Danforth community, sandwiched between Broadview and Pape. The school, its School Advisory Council and parent community,
initiated the planning for a school yard redesign that would recognize the space as more than just an outdoor learning area, but the true backyard of the neighbourhood. The area in which the school is situated has no City parks of sufficient space and the school yard has become the default play space for kids, activity space for groups and exercise space for the community seeking a green space in which to escape the high-rises that surround us. The new yard design will provide creative, active outdoor play space and ecosystem learning for the students during the school day. It will create fresh air opportunities for the children in the before and after care programs. It will allow the school to better engage the neighbours and community in the positive use of its space after hours through access to a greener park-like space. More trees, more recreational opportunities, more creative play experiences, more artistic outlets, and more partnership possibilities.

Funds in the amount of $10,000 (plus interest) have been secured and received as a condition of approval of a minor variance (Section 45) application in relation to a development at 1042-1048 Broadview Avenue (Committee of Adjustment file A0720/06TEY) for school ground improvements at the Chester Elementary School property.

This Motion seeks Council authority to release $10,360.40 of Section 45 funds received from the development to the Toronto District School Board for the purpose of school ground improvements at the Chester Elementary School property.

A Community Access Agreement to be signed by the Toronto District School Board will contain provisions governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and access to the school grounds. The Community Access Agreement will be executed between the City and the Toronto District School Board, drawn up in consultation with the local Councillor.

**Background Information (City Council)**
Member Motion MM24.1