

City Council

Motion Without Notice

MM28.38	ACTION			Ward:37
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds to Community Matters Toronto for Mural Art on Bell Utility Boxes in Ward 37 - by Councillor Michael Thompson, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Michael Thompson, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2017 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$9,600.00 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained in the development at Midland Avenue and Lawrence Avenue (South-west quadrant) (Source Account: XR3026-3700165) 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 37 (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 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 theme for the boxes will be determined in consultation with local residents and artists.

Preference will be given to artists who live or work in Ward 37. The eight murals are planned for six locations throughout the ward, specifically Howden at Lawrence Avenue East, Brimley and Applefield, Lawrence Avenue East at Canlish, Brockley at Lawrence Avenue East, Rushley at Lawrence Avenue East (3 boxes), and Ellesmere at Birkdale.

Section 37 funds have been secured and received in the development at the south-west quadrant of Midland Avenue and Lawrence Avenue 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 Midland Avenue and Lawrence Avenue 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 37 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 MM28.38