

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM29.14	ACTION			Ward:All
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Standing Up Together for Toronto - Torontonians Unite in Campaign Calling on the Ontario Government to Live Up to its Obligations to Support Toronto's Infrastructure - by Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti, seconded by Councillor Mary Fragedakis

** 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 Giorgio Mammoliti, seconded by Councillor Mary Fragedakis, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager and other appropriate City staff to investigate options – including the use of conventional and social media – in developing a City-wide campaign calling for the Ontario Government to be a committed partner in meeting the unaddressed infrastructure needs of the City of Toronto by committing to increased, long-term, and predictable funding to support Toronto's housing and transit priorities.
2. City Council direct that the options include an invitation to participate to all of the City's Agencies and Corporations, as well as the feasibility of striking a Mayor's Task Force to lead and implement the campaign.
3. City Council direct the City Manager to report to City Council by its October 2, 3 and 4, 2017 meeting on the details of such an implementation plan.

Summary

The 2017 Ontario Budget: A Stronger, Healthier Ontario failed to deliver on the needs of Ontario's largest City. Further to that, the Ontario Government's commitment to increase the Gas Tax rebate in support of municipal transit infrastructure will not be fully implemented until 2021.

The City of Toronto is the Province's critical centre of productivity. Both the provincial and federal governments have a duty to meet their obligations to the City so that it can deliver on the services that are mandated by the other levels of government. The City cannot deliver such services on a limited tax base that draws from property taxes as the main source of revenue. Given that municipalities are asymmetric "creatures of the province," the ability for municipal governments to provide public goods and services is dependent on higher orders of

government. Over the past two decades, the combination of provincial downloading and increased municipal self-reliance has made it fiscally untenable for the City of Toronto to spearhead new, capital-intensive investments.

Future prosperity and quality of life depend on immediate investments by both the provincial and federal governments. The federal government has already committed to providing municipalities with \$20.1 billion in funding for transit and \$11.2 billion for affordable housing over the next 11 years. Given that Toronto is Ontario's locus of economic growth, the Ontario Government needs to be a committed partner in not only matching the federal government's funds, but also providing a tangible plan to both address and anticipate the City's infrastructure needs.

The City is faced with a funding gap of \$1.73 billion out of a \$2.6 billion, 10-year state of good repair plan for existing Toronto Community Housing Corporation units. The Ontario Government has a responsibility to fund one-third of the repair backlog, and commit to a plan to fund one-third of new housing construction to address the immense waiting list.

Toronto's future prosperity and quality of life depend on the leadership and investments of higher orders of government. Without meaningful action by the Ontario Government, hardworking commuters will continue to fight congestion to get to and from work, and the lack of social housing will continue to leave the most vulnerable out on the streets.

Torontonians find it appalling and disgraceful that the City of Toronto is reduced to begging in order for the City to receive its fair share of funds to pay for services that are in large part mandated by the other levels of government.

Mayor John Tory has repeatedly asked that other Members of Council get involved and voice their objections to the Province regarding its lack of support for the City of Toronto.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM29.14