Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds, from the Development at 1100 Lansdowne Avenue, to the Toronto Catholic District School Board towards Playground Improvements at St. Nicholas of Bari Catholic School - by Councillor Cesar Palacio, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

* 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 Cesar Palacio, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2017 Approved Operating Budget for Non-Program by $50,000 gross, $0 net (Cost Centre: NP2161), fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained in the development at 1100 Lansdowne Avenue, (Source Account: XR3026-3700182), for the purpose of forwarding funds to the Toronto Catholic District School Board for the capital improvements to the school playgrounds at St. Nicholas of Bari Catholic School.

2. City Council direct that the $50,000 be forwarded to the Toronto Catholic District School Board upon the signing of an Undertaking by the Toronto Catholic District School Board governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

Summary
The area that encompasses St. Nicholas of Bari Catholic School (363 Rogers Road) is one of the most deprived communities with respect to recreational park space. With a growing population and an increasing number of children and young families, the school and community require safe and new playgrounds with accompanying recreational amenities that meet the needs of the neighbourhood.

This initiative will help to foster a stronger community by creating new playgrounds that are vital to ensuring our youth remain healthy and active. By creating new recreational facilities for families, students and children to enjoy, it will bring added life and vitality to the area and also create a "win/win" situation for everyone. We need a place for children to play, congregate, and most importantly, get to know one another.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has identified a need for capital investments on the
site, including 2 new playgrounds. The cost of these improvements to the playground is evaluated at $50,000.00.

The Section 37 agreement specifies that one of the purposes of these funds is community and park improvements. Council approved Implementation Guidelines for Section 37 provide state that: "Cash contributions toward the capital improvement of school board playgrounds are eligible Section 37 community benefits where the playground serves as a local park, where the public will continue to have reasonable access for the foreseeable future, and where there is no local City-owned parkland performing a similar function in the same community that could otherwise benefit from the cash contribution."

Capital improvements to the School's open green space would comply with Council’s approved Section 37 Guidelines.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board will sign an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements prior to the funds being released from the City.

**Background Information (City Council)**
Member Motion MM29.20