City Council

Motion without Notice

MM29.47	ACTION			Ward:18
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West Toronto Railpath Extension - Agreement with Metrolinx for Project Design and Construction - by Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Gord Perks

* 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 Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Gord Perks, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to negotiate, enter into, and execute agreements, as may be required, with Metrolinx, for the design and future construction of the West Toronto Railpath Extension, on such terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Transportation Services, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

The planned West Toronto Railpath extension is a key link in the Cycling Network Plan approved by Council in June 2016 and the Bikeway Trails Implementation Plan approved by Council in June 2012. The West Toronto Railpath extension will create a continuous multi-use trail system with connections to surrounding communities supporting active transportation and recreational uses.

The Environmental Assessment for the West Toronto Railpath extension was completed in June 2016. The planned alignment extends southerly from the existing West Toronto Railpath at the Dundas Street West Overpass (at Sterling Road), along the Kitchener GO rail corridor, to Strachan Avenue and the planned Fort York Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge. A combination of city streets and rail corridors with bridge crossings over existing streets are part of the route.

Much of the properties within the preferred alignment for the West Toronto Railpath extension are owned by Metrolinx and as such, design and construction of the West Toronto Railpath extension will need to be coordinated with Metrolinx's Regional Express Rail expansion. Metrolinx has engaged a consultant for designing the expansion of Regional Express Rail along the rail corridor and has agreed, in principle, to partner with the City of Toronto for the design and future construction of the West Toronto Railpath extension. Agreements with Metrolinx, for the design and future construction with Metrolinx, are anticipated to achieve efficiencies in capital coordination, cost, and project completion timeframes.

As funded by the Federal Public Transit Infrastructure Fund, City staff are currently working closely with Metrolinx to move forward on the completion of 100 percent detail design for the southerly extension of the West Toronto Railpath from Dundas Street West to Abell Street inclusive of all bridges, trails and connections identified in the Environmental Assessment Study Report, and in accordance with City standards and approval of the design. Following completion of detailed design, City staff will work with Metrolinx on capital coordination for the construction of the West Toronto Railpath extension.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM29.47