City Council

Notice of Motion

MM31.22	ACTION			Ward:27
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds from the Development at 333 Bloor Street East for a Commemorative Heritage Toronto Plaque on the topic of Public Transportation in Yorkville - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

* 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 Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2017 Operating Budget for Heritage Toronto by \$6,500.00 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits from the development at 333 Bloor Street East, 1 Mount Pleasant Road, and 575 and 577 Jarvis Street (Source Account: XR3026-3700137) for a heritage plaque commemorating the history of Public Transportation in Yorkville (Cost Centre: HG0001).

Summary

Yorkville has some of the richest transportation history in Toronto. Starting in 1849, H.B. Williams' horse-drawn omnibus service linked Yorkville Town Hall to the City of Toronto via Yonge and King Streets. The route was duplicated in 1861 by Toronto's first streetcar line, which ran from St. Lawrence Hall to Yorkville Town Hall, and was founded by Philadelphian Alexander Easton. Later, electric streetcar lines ran through the neighbourhood on Yonge, Bloor, Bay, Avenue, and Davenport.

Canada's first subway line stopped at Yonge and Bloor, but it was the 1960s when Yorkville became dense with subway stations. The Bloor-Danforth and University lines included stops at St. George and Bay and for a short time a complex wye interchange provided direct downtown service via Yorkville for users of east-west lines.

From the 1960s to the early 1990s, electric trolley buses serviced Bay Street, passing directly through Yorkville, making the neighbourhood one of the few (if not the only) to have seen all forms of Toronto transit: horse-drawn coach, horse-drawn streetcar, electric streetcar, subway, trolley bus, diesel bus.

This Heritage Toronto commemorative plaque, to be installed on Cumberland by the Bay

station subway entrance pending approval from the Right of Way Management office, will inform residents and visitors alike of the rich history of public transportation in our city in general, and Yorkville in particular. Like many Heritage Toronto plaques, it will become a landmark of the neighbourhood.

Funds have been secured through Sections 37 benefits from the development at 333 Bloor Street East, 1 Mount Pleasant Road and 575 and 577 Jarvis Street that included funding of \$900,000 to achieve heritage objectives in the vicinity of the lands. Of the original contribution and accrued interest sufficient funds remain for heritage objectives that have not been spent or remain uncommitted.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM31.22