

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM35.25	ACTION			Ward:28
---------	--------	--	--	---------

Establishing ownership of the Eastern Gap sea wall and adjacent lands on Toronto Islands - by Councillor Lucy Troisi, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Parks and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.
* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Lucy Troisi, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Director, Engineering Support Services, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to identify the legal owner of the sea wall on the west side of the Eastern Gap and identify the legal owner of the lands on Ward's Island immediately adjacent to the sea wall and to report the findings to the Parks and Environment Committee as soon as is practicable.

Summary

The 2017 floods on the Toronto islands have revealed a number of areas which will require mitigation to reduce the damage to lands and structures caused by potential future floods. Amongst such areas are the sea wall on the west side of the Eastern Gap and the lowlands immediately adjacent to the sea wall on Ward's island.

The sea wall itself has deteriorated over the past many years since no work has been performed to stabilize the structure since likely sometime in the 1980s. The 2017 flood caused further deterioration of the wall as it currently is in deplorable shape. It is currently considered a navigational hazard.

City staff has made several attempts to establish ownership of the wall and the approximate 100 feet of lands adjacent to it. Former City staff have opined that the ownership of the lands rests with the Federal Government. Ports Toronto denies ownership suggesting that the lands were released to the City some time ago. As we understand it, nothing to date has been found to support that assertion.

In order to make progress in a timely way and have the necessary work undertaken by the party that holds ownership, further investigation is required and accordingly we believe that the following actions need be taken in order to have any possibility that restoration and flood

mitigation efforts can be undertaken as soon as is possible

This Motion is urgent as it relates to time-sensitive remediation efforts on Toronto Islands.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM35.25