June 14th, 2018

Dear Chair and Members of Licensing and Standards Committee:

RE: Installation of mural at Wali ul Asr – East Campus Muslim School through the StreetARToronto program

Please accept this letter as my request to add a new item of business entitled: Installation of mural at Wali ul Asr – East Campus Muslim School through the StreetARToronto program.

As you may know, a local school in Scarborough Centre has been vandalized by racist graffiti on three occasions. The latest incident - which occurred during the holy month of Ramadan - was particularly hateful and was removed by City of Toronto staff before the 200 children arrived at school the next morning.

While the racist graffiti has been removed to the best our ability, the residual markings/imprint on the building is visual and is a daily reminder to students, teachers, parents and local community members that some individual are intent on spreading hate and division in our local community. I am requesting the City of Toronto support covering the defaced walls with a mural that depicts peace, love and inclusion in our local community and am therefore requesting support for the following motion:

MOTION:
City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, through the Public Realm Section, StreetARToronto Program, to facilitate and fund the installation of a mural, including community consultation and engagement, on an exterior wall of the Wali ul Asr-East Campus Muslim School which was recently the target of hateful graffiti vandalism, at a cost not to exceed $20,000.00.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at 416-392-0204.

Cheers,

Glenn De Baeremaeker
City Councillor, Ward 38
Deputy Mayor, Scarborough East