

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM36.10	ACTION			Ward:13
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds from the Development at 1844-1854 Bloor Street West, to Fund the creation and installation of a plaque in Ward 13 - by Councillor Sarah Doucette, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher

** 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 Sarah Doucette, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council increase, on a one-time basis, the 2018 Operating Budget for Heritage Toronto, subsequent to its approval by Council, by \$6,500.00 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained in the development of 1844-1854 Bloor Street West, 35 and 37 Pacific Avenue, 6-14 Oakmount Road and part of 18 and 18A Oakmount Road (Source Account XR3026-3700591), for the production and installation of a commemorative plaque for the Carleton Race Course (Cost Centre HG0001/4995).

Summary

Heritage Toronto is working with the Horse Racing Hall of Fame, a charity, and local residents to commemorate the location of the Carleton Race Course. This plaque will inform residents and visitors on Toronto's early horse-racing, sports, and entertainment histories.

The Carleton Race Course was built in the late 1850's by William Conroy Keele on his farm land in the West Toronto Junction. The course was bounded on the west by what is now High Park Avenue, on the south by Glenlake Avenue, on the east by Pacific Avenue and the north by Annette Street. The club house was most likely positioned at a central point on the west side near High Park Avenues and Humberside Avenue.

The race course land became the headquarters of the Toronto Turf Club. In 1859, The Toronto Turf Club approached Governor General Edmund Walker Head to obtain an annual horse racing prize to be awarded by Queen Victoria. It was granted with a prize of 50 guineas, and the Queen's Plate was first held the following June of 1860. The Carleton Race Course would be the home for the Queen's Plate for the next three subsequent years.

For diplomatic reasons, 1864 saw the Queen's Plate begin a policy of changing venues

annually. For the next two decades the event floated around Southern Ontario, being run at tracks in, amongst other towns, Guelph, Barrie, Hamilton and Ottawa. This practice continued until the race was taken over by the Ontario Jockey Club and permanently set at Woodbine.

Following the death of William Conway Keele in 1872, the slow process of dividing up the family estate began. Much of the property came into the hands of his youngest son, Charles, who sold a significant portion of the land, including the racetrack, to developer Daniel Webster Clendenan, who turned the land into what became the Village of West Toronto Junction.

Funds have been secured through Sections 37 benefits from the development at 1844-1854 Bloor Street West, 35 and 37 Pacific Avenue, 6-14 Oakmount Road and part of 18 and 18A Oakmount Road to be used by the City for a range of capital improvements including streetscape improvements.

This Motion seeks authorization to amend the 2018 Operating Budget of Heritage Toronto to fund the creation and installation of a plaque commemorating the location of the Carleton Race Course. Heritage Toronto had estimated the entire project to cost \$6,500.

As Heritage Toronto is a directly funded City agency and not considered an "outside party", no undertaking is required to be signed by Heritage Toronto governing the use of the funds and financial reporting.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM36.10