
City Council

Notice of Motion

MM38.7	ACTION			Ward:All
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Helping Seniors, Parents and People with Disabilities Access City Services - Amendment to Council Constituency Services and Office Budget - by Councillor Chin Lee, seconded by Councillor Cesar Palacio

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to a re-opening of Item EX31.2. A two-thirds vote is required to re-open that Item. If re-opened, the previous Council decision remains in force unless Council decides otherwise.*

Recommendations

Councillor Chin Lee, seconded by Councillor Cesar Palacio, recommends that:

1. City Council delete Part 229 of City Council's decision on Item EX31.2, headed "2018 Capital and Operating Budgets".

Part to be deleted:

229. City Council direct that, beginning in the 2018-2022 term of Council, Councillor Constituency Offices paid for from the Council General Expense must be located in Civic Centres or other City-owned or agency-owned buildings where the rent is comparable to civic centre space, and that the Council Constituency Services and Office Budget (CSOB) and related policies be updated to reflect this change.

Summary

Local constituency offices play a vital role in ensuring that all residents in a City Councillor's Ward, especially seniors, parents and people with disabilities, have easy access to their representative at City Hall and City services. They provide residents with a convenient place in their neighbourhood to meet their City Councillor and staff in private to discuss sensitive matters that would not be suitable for a public location.

Removing these local offices and moving them to a Civic Centre would severely limit the ability of many residents in each Ward to meet with their City Councillor and their staff. Resident's with mobility difficulties or severe time constraints should not be expected to travel for what could be over an hour each way simply to meet with their local representative in a private location. Additionally, moving these offices to civic or recreation buildings will use up vital programming space and provide little to no savings.

Requires Re-opening

Item EX31.2 - February 12, 2018 only as it pertains to Part 229 of City Council's decision.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM38.7