



REVISED
Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM38.9	ACTION			Ward:All
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Deterring Bike Theft Near Toronto Parks - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Gord Perks

** Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Parks and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Gord Perks, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to consult with the Toronto Police Service and the Municipal Licensing and Standards Division on the creation of a bike assembly and disassembly ban by-law which, upon second violation, would entail the offending parties being banned from a given park for a specific period of time to be determined; this would not include basic bike maintenance activities, such as inflating tires.
2. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report to the May 3, 2018 Parks and Environment Committee meeting on an implementation plan and draft by-law for park-specific bike assembly and disassembly bans.

Summary

Bike theft is an ongoing and serious concern in Toronto. Toronto Police reports indicate that the numbers are worsening. 2,949 bikes were reported stolen in 2014 and the number grew to over 3,700 in 2016 – an increase of over 26 percent. With a small number of cyclists electing to register their bicycles through the Toronto Police Service, it is often a challenge for Officers to identify stolen bikes. Without this information or substantial immediate evidence, Officers cannot intervene when bicycles are being disassembled, re-assembled, or otherwise modified to make identification of stolen property even more difficult. Consequently, some downtown parks have seen large numbers of bikes "chopped" in full view of the public and there is little that can be done. Residents are increasingly concerned, as they have seen increases in area bike thefts and want clearer conduct rules for their parks.

In order to address park impacts created by these limitations in enforcement, City Council should enable Parks, Forestry and Recreation to impose park-specific by-laws prohibiting bike disassembly and re-assembly, in consultation with local Councillors and community stakeholders. These provisions are not intended to supplement criminal investigations or the investigation of stolen property, which remain the jurisdiction of the Toronto Police, but to

address specific conduct concerns in parks that are not currently addressed by nuisance, trade, solicitation, or vehicle-related by-laws.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM38.9

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-113430.pdf>)