

## City Council

### Motion without Notice

MM38.31	ACTION			Ward:All
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### Managing Utility Work in Downtown Neighbourhoods - by Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Mayor John Tory

*\* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

*\* This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

#### Recommendations

Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Mayor John Tory, recommends that:

1. City Council re-affirm that non-emergency utility work should not take place overnight in downtown.
2. City Council direct that in circumstances where overnight work is necessary, appropriate consultation with the Ward Councillor and notification to local residents and stakeholders in advance will be required, to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Transportation Services.
3. City Council re-affirm that the new policy for utility work in the roadway in the area bounded by Jarvis Street, Bathurst Street, Dundas Street and Lake Shore Boulevard/Harbour Street applies only to major and minor arterial roadways and not to non-arterial roadways.

#### Summary

Our downtown is made up of vibrant neighbourhoods, home to hundreds of thousands of residents. 240,000 people currently live downtown, a number that is expected to reach 500,000 in the next 25 years. The City has established the downtown core as a mixed-use neighbourhood where people live, work and play. Every day, we work hard to build a more liveable downtown – to provide the services, facilities and infrastructure people need to call their neighbourhoods home.

At the same time, the weekday population of downtown grows to more than 900,000 people. With one-third of all the jobs in the City located downtown, alongside a number of universities and colleges, it is vital for the overall economy that people can move in and out of the downtown core easily.

Our neighbourhoods work hard to balance the diverse needs of the downtown, to ensure the downtown economy and day-to-day activities can thrive. As we work to manage the needs of a busy downtown core, we must also ensure that we are managing the needs of the communities

that call it home. We must work hard to find an appropriate balance.

This balance includes protecting our downtown residents from regular and unnecessary overnight work in their neighbourhoods. Any effort to address the occupation of vehicle lanes during peak hours due to non-emergency utility work must take into account that our downtown is made up of neighbourhoods.

While the recently announced policy for non-emergency utility construction in the downtown does not intend to create overnight work, further measures will help to ensure this does not happen and to mitigate the impacts of construction.

This Motion is urgent as the new policy for utility work in the downtown is already in place.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM38.31