

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM41.20	ACTION			Ward:5
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Release of Section 37 Funds from the Development at 2800 Bloor Street West to the Toronto District School Board for Field Improvements at Islington Junior Middle School - by Councillor Justin J. Di Ciano, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.
* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Justin J. Di Ciano, seconded by Councillor Sarah Doucette, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the Approved 2018 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$103,450.40 gross, \$0 net, (Cost Centre: NP2161) fully funded by Section 45 funds obtained in the development 2800 Bloor Street West (Source Account: 220096), for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to the Toronto District School Board for Islington Junior School's sport field Masterplan/improvements at Islington Junior Middle School located at 44 Cordova Avenue.
2. City Council request City staff from the Management Services Branch of the Parks, Forestry and Recreation to participate in the preparation of the Community Access Agreement and City Council request the City Solicitor to draw up the Agreement, in consultation with the Ward Councillor and Community Planning staff.
3. City Council authorize the execution of a Community Access Agreement with the Toronto District School Board for the capital improvements to the sports field at Islington Junior Middle School, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor.
4. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board once the Toronto District School Board has signed a Community Access Agreement with the City, governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and addressing community access to the playground facilities satisfactory to the City Solicitor, and prepared in consultation with the General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation and the Ward Councillor.

Summary

Much thought, effort and consultation among stakeholders has gone into the field improvement project for Islington Junior Middle School as this is the only green space that is accessible to the entire community 7 days/week. The objective of the project is first and foremost to remedy the existing issues but also to make this a space that is visually appealing to the surrounding high rises and accessible to all community members. As such, a number of features have been incorporated into the design that honour both the school's and the community's needs (for example, outdoor classroom space, mindfulness labyrinth, quiet play areas, community garden, cricket pitch, basketball courts, asphalt games and additional green space in the form of tree islands added to our colas area.)

Funds have been secured from the development at 2800 Bloor Street West as community benefits through Sections 37 Planning Act to be used toward capital improvements for community services and facilities in the vicinity of the Lands. The funds identified have been received by the City.

Council approved Implementation Guidelines for Section 37 state that:

"Cash contributions toward the capital improvement of school board playgrounds are eligible S.37 community benefits where the playground serves as a local park, where the public will continue to have reasonable access for the foreseeable future, and where there is no local City-owned parkland performing a similar function in the same community that could otherwise benefit from the cash contribution."

This is the only green space that is accessible to the entire community 7 days/week. A number of features have been incorporated into the design that honour both the school's and the community's needs (e.g., outdoor classroom space, mindfulness labyrinth, quiet play areas, community garden, cricket pitch, basketball courts, asphalt games and additional green space in the form of tree islands added to our colas area).

A Community Access Agreement to be signed by the Toronto District School Board will contain provisions governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and access to the playgrounds at the school. The Community Access Agreement will be executed between the City and the Toronto District School Board, drawn up in consultation with the local Councillor.

The Motion is time sensitive as Islington School wish to move forward with their sports field project this year and the funds are required to facilitate this construction.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM41.20