City Council

Notice of Motion

MM44.39	ACTION			Ward:All
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Feasibility of requiring developers to submit a construction staging plan with rezoning applications - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor John Filion

* 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 Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor John Filion, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to consult with the development industry on eliminating the practice of occupying the City right-of-way for construction purposes and to report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee in the first quarter of 2019.

2. City Council request the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, in consultation with the General Manager Transportation Services and the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building, to report to the first meeting of the Planning and Growth Management Committee in 2019 on the feasibility of requiring development applicants to submit a Construction Staging Plan with their rezoning application.

3. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to provide an update on Recommendation 1.a. of Member Motion MM55.29, Taking Back Our Streets - Getting Toronto Moving Again, requesting the feasibility of eliminating the practice of allowing developers to occupy the public right-of-way, considered by City Council at its August 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2014 meeting.

4. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to provide an update on Member Motion MM37.40 - Delivering Solutions to Gridlock - Ending Congestion Caused By Rush Hour Deliveries on Busy Streets, adopted by City Council at its July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2013 meeting.

Summary

Traffic congestion is a significant problem for Toronto's motorists, public transit users and cyclists. A British firm recently discovered that Toronto has the worst commute times in North America and estimates have put the cost of congestion to our City's economy at \$6 billion a

year while negatively impacting on the quality of life of our residents.

Of course, the long-term solutions to this problem include building a more accessible, affordable, extensive and efficient public transportation system in addition to encouraging carpooling and other modes of travel. But, in the meantime, we must take every opportunity to ease congestion.

The practice of allowing developers to occupy traffic lanes for staging construction negatively impacts motorists, surface transit users and pedestrians. This usage of our streets causes bottlenecks, backing up traffic several blocks on major arterial roads, and can lead to inconvenient and, in some cases, unsafe conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.

For too long, developers have submitted designs without providing enough land to actually build what they are proposing with the expectation that the City will later provide public land to facilitate construction. Enough is enough.

This Motion requests Staff to look at the feasibility of eliminating the practice of occupying the City right-of-way for construction purposes and requiring developers to submit construction plans at the same time as their rezoning application to demonstrate that they can build what they are proposing without impacting our community. Developers should be prepared to stage construction on their own property and provide the necessary setbacks to do so.

This Motion also recommends that Staff provide updates on previous report requests on the feasibility of banning the practice of allowing developers to occupy the public right-of-way altogether and eliminating deliveries on busy streets during rush hours.

These initiatives would help ease congestion and put an end to developers profiting at the public's expense.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM44.39