

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM44.50	ACTION			Ward:All
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City Boulevard Maintenance - by Councillor Maria Augimeri, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford

- * 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 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
- * This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Maria, Augimeri, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to report back in the first quarter of 2019 on:
 - a. a proposed program and application protocol for seniors and individuals with disabilities who require City boulevard grass cutting assistance; and
 - b. the implications of amending Municipal Code Chapter 743-36 and 743-37 so that all boulevard repairs, including, but not limited to, damage caused by animals, road vehicles, collisions, and natural occurrences, other than damages caused illegally by the adjacent property owner fall under Municipal responsibility.

Summary

On February 7, 2012, City Council adopted Item PW9.10 which unified the rules regarding who is responsible for maintaining the City's boulevards. Article V of Toronto Municipal Code 743 states that, the owner or occupier of land adjoining the street shall maintain the boulevard at their expense, which includes mowing the grass to ensure that the height does not exceed 20cm, that the lawn is kept in a healthy state, keep the boulevard free of litter, and much more.

Since these changes came into force, many residents, particular seniors, have faced difficulty maintaining the boulevards according to the City's strict requirements. Many seniors who own corner lots and lots on cul-de-sacs are now responsible for maintaining lawns that far exceed their own private property's lawn coverage. For years they have been requesting assistance from the City, and have instead been met with threats of fines if they do not maintain the City's boulevard.

Time has shown that this service cut has negatively affected those most vulnerable in our

communities. By reinstating boulevard maintenance for seniors and ratifying aesthetic and structural maintenance standards, the City will be making a minor change that can create major help to those who need it most.

This Motion is urgent as it provides staff with parameters of a report which is due by the start of the next Council term.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM44.50