Member Motion

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM44.80  ACTION  Ward:15

1603 Eglinton Avenue West - Release of Section 37 Funds from the Development for Community Benefit and Public Art Projects - by Councillor Josh Colle, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão

* 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 Josh Colle, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2018 Approved Capital Budget for Toronto Public Library by $50,000 gross, $0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits from the development at 1603 Eglinton Avenue West (Source Account Number XR3026-3700865), for capital improvements to the Oakwood Village Library Branch, including the purchase of sound and light equipment in the auditorium space. (Cost Centre: CLB206-01).

2. City Council increase the 2018 Approved Operating Budget for Non-Program by $10,000.00 gross, $0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 1603 Eglinton Avenue West (Source Account Number XR3026-3700865), for the purpose of forwarding funds to the York-Eglinton BIA, for the production of a mural at 1661 Eglinton Ave W (cost centre NP2161),

3. City Council direct that the $10,000.00 be forwarded to the York-Eglinton Business Improvement Area, subject to the Business Improvement Area signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

4. City Council increase the 2018 Approved Operating Budget for Non-Program by $10,000.00 gross, $0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 1603 Eglinton Avenue West (Source Account Number XR3026-3700865), for the purpose of forwarding funds to the Fairbank Village BIA, for the production of a mural at 2030 Eglinton Avenue West (cost centre NP2161),

5. City Council direct that the $10,000.00 be forwarded to the Fairbank Village Business Improvement Area, subject to the Business Improvement Area signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.
6. City Council increase the 2018 Approved Operating Budget for Non-Program by $194,840.25 gross, $0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 1603 Eglinton Avenue West (Source Account Number XR3026-3700865), for the purpose of forwarding funds to the NIA Centre for Arts, to fund Architectural Services necessary for the renovation of the City-owned building at 524 Oakwood Avenue, currently occupied by the NIA Arts Centre (cost centre NP2161).

7. City Council direct that the $194,840.25 be forwarded to the NIA Centre for Arts, subject to the Centre signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

8. City Council amend the 2018 Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital Budget and future year commitments for the York Beltline Trail Improvements sub-project in the Trails and Pathways project, by increasing the total project cost by $357,504, from $1,186,560 to $1,544,064, with cash flow in 2020, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits from the developments at 1603 Eglinton Avenue West ($173,159 from Source Account Number XR3026-3700865 and $184,345.00 from Source Account XR3026-3700866), for the future design and construction of a York Beltline Extension from Marlee Avenue to the Allen Road.

9. City Council increase the 2018 Approved Operating Budget for Non-Program by $200,000.00 gross, $0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 1603 Eglinton Avenue West (Source Account Number XR3026-3700866), for the purpose of forwarding funds to Metrolinx to fund the production and installation of a Reggae Lane Mural reproduction in the Oakwood LRT Station in collaboration with Crosslinx and the Artist Adrian Hayles.

10. City Council direct that the $200,000.00 be forwarded to Metrolinx, subject to the Metrolinx signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

Summary

Eglinton Avenue is in the midst of a transformation, with the construction of the Eglinton Crosstown well underway. This transit mega project will transform the heart of midtown Toronto for generations to come, connecting this important avenue to the rest of the city.

This report recommends the release of a total of $822,345.00 in funds secured by the City through agreements made under Section 37 of the Planning Act. The funding will be applied to capital improvements and/or capital facilities for a range of projects in Ward 15, as identified below.

Oakwood Village Toronto Public Library Branch Auditorium Revitalization – The Oakwood Village library is an important hub for the local community, and has seen a steady growth in demand for services and space. The auditorium space in the basement of the building has an occupancy of 120, and has serves as a rare publically accessible meeting space for the wider community. The sound and light equipment in the space has reached the end of its life cycle and needs to be replaced, so the space can continue hosting events for years to come.

York-Eglinton Business Improvement Area Mural – The local Business Improvement Area is undertaking a mural project at 1661 Eglinton Avenue West to enhance the neighbourhood and public realm during continuing construction of the Eglinton LRT. The project has already
received a mural grant from the BIA office. The funds will be used to hire equipment to complete the installation of the mural.

Fairbank Village Business Improvement Area Mural – The local Business Improvement Area is undertaking a mural project at 2030 Eglinton Avenue West to enhance the neighbourhood and public realm during continuing construction of the Eglinton LRT. The project has already received a mural grant from the Business Improvement Area office. The funds will be used to hire equipment to complete the installation of the mural.

NIA Centre for Arts Renovation Project - NIA is a Toronto-based not-for-profit organization that supports, showcases and promotes an appreciation of arts from across the African Diaspora. The organization currently occupies a City-owned building at 524 Oakwood Ave, and is undertaking renovations to develop a 170 feet performance venue, art gallery, a digital arts incubator, a visual arts studio, and a community workspace for creative projects. NIA is located within the Oakwood Arts District and will service as cornerstone of the local community.

York Beltline Extension – The trail is a critical recreational asset that runs from Caledonia Rd in the West to Yonge Street in the East (via the Kay Gardner Beltline Trail). Parks, Forestry and Recreation are currently undertaking an extension of the York Beltline Trail from Walter Saunders Park to Marlee Avenue. Section 37 funds allocated through this motion will go towards the design and construction of the last missing piece of the trail, from Marlee Avenue to the Allen Road, as well as undertaking of other general improvements along the trail.

Reggae Lane Mural reproduction in the Oakwood LRT Station – The Reggae Lane mural at the 1529 Eglinton Avenue West Green P parking lot is a local landmark and important celebration of the history and culture of the community. In an effort to preserve the mural as the neighbourhood continues to change, the collaboration between the Artist Adrian Hayles, and Metrolinx & Crosslinx, will bring a reproduction of the artwork to the future users of the Eglinton LRT.

Funds have been secured through Section 37 benefits from the development at 1603 Eglinton Ave West for the community benefits, within the Oakwood and Eglinton area. The funds have been received by the City from this developments and the monies identified above have not been spent or remain uncommitted to satisfy this motion.

**Background Information (City Council)**

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