

City Council

MM44.64	ACTION			Ward:27
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836 Yonge Street - Release of Section 37 funds from the Development for Streetscape Improvements on Ramsden Park Road - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** 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 Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2018– 2027 Capital Budget and Plan for Transportation Services on a one-time basis by approving total project costs of \$433,000 gross, \$0 net, and cash flows commitments of \$433,000 in 2021 for the Neighbourhood Improvements Program (CTP421 – Ramsden Park Road Revitalization – Streetscape) for design, construction, project management and related costs to implement, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the following development at 836-850 Yonge Street and 1-9A Yorkville Avenue (Source Account: XR3026-3700722).

Summary

Ramsden Park Road serves as a gateway to Ramsden Park, a neighbourhood green space that is currently undergoing a massive renovation. The local community has long identified that the road has fallen into disrepair; with cracked and uneven pavement, poor lighting, and struggling vegetation. Moving forward with the necessary improvements has been a multi-year process.

During the 2014 community consultations for Ramsden Park improvements, I requested that Ramsden Park Road streetscape improvements be included in the scope of work. At the time, I was informed that the two projects could not be combined and accomplished concurrently.

Instead, Transportation Services would address the streetscape through a separate process, after the park renovations concluded.

In 2015, local residents and business owners reached out to The Laneway Project, a Toronto organization that works with communities to bring improvements to local laneways. Together, they undertook a study of Ramsden Park Road to find revitalization opportunities supporting the changes underway at the adjacent Ramsden Park. This community-led initiative culminated in the Ramsden Park Road Master Plan (Final Draft dated September 19, 2016.)

In May of this year, Public Realm staff produced a streetscape design - referencing the Laneway Project proposal - and engaged in consultation with the local community. The project

is now set to move forward, with Transportation Services and Engineering and Construction Services committing to implementation as early as 2019 and no later than 2021.

Ramsden Park Road also provides significant parking for local residents and visitors to the neighbourhood. In 2015, Transportation Services requested to implement "Pay and Display" parking on the south side of Ramsden Park Road, between Yonge Street and the west limit, in order to provide much needed long-term parking in this area, and an added source of revenue to the City. The paid parking cannot be installed until the streetscape improvements are completed.

Funds have been secured from the development at 836-850 Yonge Street and 1-9A Yorkville Avenue as community benefits through Sections 37 Planning Act to be used by the City for improvements that will benefit the community in the vicinity of the project such as, but not limited to, non-profit licensed daycare facilities, community centres, recreation facilities, libraries, arts related community space, local streetscape improvements, Yorkville Business Improvement Area capital projects, capital improvements to Toronto Community Housing in Ward 27, or public parks in the area, at the discretion of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, in consultation with the Ward Councillor. The funds identified have been received by the City, and deemed appropriately used in this capital improvement.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM44.64