

City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 2

MM2.3	ACTION	Amended		Ward: All
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Community Environment Days - Don't Divide 3 by 2 - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

City Council Decision

City Council on January 30 and 31, 2019, adopted the following:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services to provide each City Councillor the opportunity to host a second Community Environment Day and to undertake the administrative process of booking one additional Community Environment Day per Ward for Councillors who request it, in preparation for the 2019 season, with the implementation of the days pending the outcome of the 2019 Budget process.
2. City Council direct the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services to revise the Community Environment Day booking policy, such that events can be booked on any day of the week and not restricted to weekends.
3. City Council direct that the opportunity for City Councillors to host a second Community Environment Day become the new City of Toronto standard.

Summary

Torontonians are super supporters of the 3R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) and their access should not be cut in half. That is the proposal for Environment Day under the new 25 wards.

Community Environment Days are an important part of the City's waste reduction strategy. From 2014 to 2017, by going to their local Community Environment Day, Torontonians recycled and/or diverted from landfills:

- 503,416 kilograms of electronics;
- 1,261,895 kilograms of household hazardous waste;
- 231,402 kilograms of reusable household goods; and
- 38,673 kilograms of arts and crafts supplies.

Under the leadership of our Solid Waste Management Services, Community Environment Days have become a great opportunity for City divisions, agencies and community groups to provide information and advice directly to Torontonians on a range of critical environmental initiatives.

City Council has consistently supported strengthening our environmental protection initiatives. In June 2016, City Council adopted a Long Term Waste Management Strategy, which includes, amongst other things, aspirational goals, education programs and a 70 percent waste diversion rate target by Year 10 (2026) for City-managed residential customers. Furthermore, in July 2017 City Council unanimously approved a set of long-term, low-carbon goals, and strategies as a part of Toronto's new and ambitious climate action strategy, TransformTO.

A reduction in the number of Community Environment Days from 44 to 25 is inconsistent with these goals and would mean many residents in the new 25 wards would lose real access to these important and long standing local environmental initiatives.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM2.3

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-123810.pdf>

(January 29, 2019) Fiscal Impact Statement from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-124147.pdf>