

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM2.4	ACTION			Ward: 14
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Tommy Thompson Park Shuttle Service - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão

** 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 Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. City Council forward to the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer and the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services the request from the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority for \$130,000 from the City on an annual basis to operate a public shuttle service in Tommy Thompson Park for consideration as part of the 2019 Budget Process.

Summary

Tommy Thompson Park on the Leslie Street Spit is a gem used by thousands of people from all walks of life and for many purposes: field naturalists; birding; walking; fishing; sailing; and biking. It is a true paradise for active and passive recreation.

In 1989, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority completed an extensive environmental assessment and planning process which resulted in the creation of the Tommy Thompson Park Master Plan whose main objectives are to:

- preserve significant species;
- protect environmentally significant areas;
- enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitat; and
- enhance public recreational opportunities.

In 1992, the Master Plan was approved with an amendment that the "Master Plan for Tommy Thompson Park include a public transit component to ensure access to the Leslie Street Spit". The 1995 Order in Council approving the Master Plan expanded on this: "The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority or the park operating agency will develop a public consultation process for park users regarding the type and operation of the park transportation service". There was a public shuttle bus service in Tommy Thompson Park but it was cancelled in 2011. The reinstatement of the public shuttle bus in Tommy Thompson Park would be a great service to the public, especially for those with mobility issues as well as the sailing club

and the birding community.

As the operator of the Tommy Thompson Park, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority has requested funds from the City of Toronto to facilitate the reintroduction of a shuttle service, one that meets Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act regulations, to improve public accessibility within the park, to enhance public recreational opportunities and to improve safety for the growing number of visitors. In December of 2018, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority completed a cost estimate for the operation of a shuttle service during hours when Tommy Thompson Park is open to the public. The annual operating cost will total \$130,000.00, which includes capital recovery.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM2.4