Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM9.13

Supporting Wastewater Energy Transfer in Toronto - by Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Mayor John Tory

* Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Mayor John Tory, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Toronto Water, in consultation with the Director, Environment and Energy and the City Solicitor to report back to City Council on October 2 and 3, 2019, through the Infrastructure and Environment Committee with recommendations on how to advance strategic pilot projects for wastewater energy transfer in the fourth quarter of 2019.

2. City Council request that information from these pilot projects be used to develop recommendations for a wastewater energy transfer policy, and that staff report back to Council through the Infrastructure and Environment Committee in the third quarter of 2020.

Summary

The City of Toronto is committed to an ambitious climate change strategy through TransformTO. As part of our commitment to meet the objectives of TransformTO we have established the Green Market Acceleration Program to support the development of new renewable energy technologies.

Supporting technology that uses the energy from wastewater is one step the City can take to advance our climate change goals. The United Nations estimates that over 3000 billion litres of waste water are dumped into North American and European sewers every day. That waste water contains thermal energy that can be used to heat and cool buildings across the City. This could have a significant environmental impact, given that heating and cooling buildings contributes almost 30 percent of annual greenhouse gas emissions.

Background Information (City Council)

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