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## City Council

### Notice of Motion

MM12.7	ACTION			Ward: 12
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### **Authorization to release Section 37 funds to Community Matters Toronto for Bell Box Murals - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle**

*\* 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 Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2020 Operating Budget for Non-Program, subsequent to its approval by City Council, by \$9,000.00, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the development at 1443, 1445, 1451 Bathurst Street and 501 St. Clair Avenue West (Source Account: XR3026-3700597) for the purpose of providing one-time capital funding to Community Matters Toronto to complete six murals on Bell Boxes in various locations in the St. Clair West area.
2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to Community Matters Toronto upon the signing of an Undertaking by Community Matters Toronto that governs the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

### **Summary**

This Motion seeks to provide funding, paid entirely through Section 37 monies, to Community Matters Toronto' Bell Box Murals Project to paint six Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in the St. Clair West area in Spring 2020.

Since 2009, artists from the Bell Boxes Murals Project have painted over 250 murals on Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in 32 neighbourhoods throughout Toronto, Southern Ontario and Quebec.

The benefits of the Bell Boxes Murals Project include:

- replaces graffiti and vandalism with original works of art;
- makes the streets more inviting to residents and visitors;
- enhances residents' sense of community;
- art is accessible to all people, regardless of income, language or social stature;

- creates a public art channel to reflect local culture and heritage; and
- provides income and opportunities for local artists.

Once submissions have been received by the Bell Box Murals Project they will be presented to the jury of community partners for final selections. Artists will be chosen on four criteria:

- connection to the neighbourhood;
- experience painting on outdoor surfaces;
- portfolio of past mural work; and
- concept or sketch of the mural.

The Bell Boxes Murals Project is an independent, community-engaged art program run by Community Matters Toronto in collaboration with local residents, community organizations, and artists to benefit all members of the community.

Section 37 funds have been secured and received from the development at 1443, 1445, 1451 Bathurst Street and 501 St. Clair Avenue West for public art and beautification and street enhancement projects. The use of the funds for Bell Box murals from this development is consistent with the purpose for which the funds have been secured and complies with the Council approved Section 37 Guidelines.

Prior to the funds being released from the City, Community Matters Toronto will be required to sign an Undertaking that governs the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM12.7