

City Council

Notice of Motion

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| MM23.7 | ACTION | | | Ward: All |
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Prioritizing a Green and Just Recovery in Toronto's COVID-19 Recovery and Rebuild - by Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

** 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 Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, recommends that:

1. City Council request that the Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild's report to Council be guided by the C40 Cities' COVID-19 Recovery Task Force's Statement of Principles, and City Council request the City Manager to include actions that address the three key components of the C40 Mayors' Agenda for a Green and Just Recovery (jobs and an inclusive economy, resilience and equity, and health and wellbeing) into future reports on Toronto's Strategy for Recovery and Rebuild.

Summary

In April 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, C40 Mayors from across the world launched a Global Mayors COVID-19 Recovery Task Force "to rebuild our cities and economies in a way that improves public health, reduces inequality and addresses the climate crisis." The Task Force recognizes that the pandemic has fuelled not only a health crisis, but a social and economic one, and aims to use the principles of the Global Green New Deal to support cities in building a green and just recovery.

Mayor John Tory has formally endorsed the Task Force's Statement of Principles, which include fuelling recovery by investing in public services and community resilience; investing in measures that improve resilience and protect against future threats including the climate crisis; and recognizing that climate action can help to accelerate economic recovery and improve social equity. The Principles also include a commitment to work towards ensuring that national governments, and regional and international institutions, provide cities with the necessary supports to deliver a healthy, equitable and sustainable recovery. Importantly, the Task Force's first Principle is that COVID-19 recovery should not lead to "business as usual": A path that - when it comes to the other global crisis, the climate crisis - has us on track for worldwide catastrophe.

C40 Mayors, climate experts, and activists alike agree that in the effort to recover, we have

been presented with the opportunity to build a greener, more resilient economy that leaves no one behind. The forthcoming report from the Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild can help our City to put this into action. By incorporating these recommendations, as well as recovery proposals being put forward by local environmental organizations and climate experts into our plan for recovery, the City can take the bold action required to build a more resilient, equitable, and low-carbon Toronto.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.7