

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM24.31	ACTION			Ward: 8
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Lawrence Heights Emergency Safety and Security Response - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Communications MM24.31.1 to MM24.31.3 have been submitted on this Item.

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes, recommends that to protect the people of Lawrence Heights:

1. City Council request the Toronto Community Housing Corporation in cooperation with the community to examine a possibility of establishing a Community Resource Safety House in order to support local residents, community building and safety enhancing effort.
2. City Council request the City Manager to reiterate the requests made by City Council that the Provincial Government return the funding for the building of the new Lawrence Heights Community Centre, which was removed in the 2019 Provincial Budget.
3. City Council request the Toronto Police Services Board to report on the actions needed to deter the drive-by shootings that are occurring on a regular basis, on implementation of additional safety cameras throughout the area, and on any other measures that can be undertaken immediately to deal with the constant threat of the repeated shootings in the Community.

Summary

The Lawrence Heights Community is facing a never ending challenge in dealing with constant gun violence, usually drive-by shootings, despite the best efforts of members of the community, Toronto Community Housing Corporation, Unison Community Health, Toronto Parks and Recreation Staff, 32 Toronto Police Division, Pathways Programs, LHION Safety Committee, Lawrence Heights Change Makers, Hope and Hustle Heights, Lawrence Heights Parents Association, and all residents of Lawrence Heights.

Despite the City of Toronto's Lawrence Heights Revitalization initiative having completed Phase One, where new mixed housing has been completed, the residents continue to face

constant threats to their safety and security, especially safety and security of children in the community.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM24.31

Communications (City Council)

(September 30, 2020) E-mail from Mohamed Ali-aden (MM.New.MM24.31.1)

(September 30, 2020) Letter from Ali Sheikhomar (MM.New.MM24.31.2)

(September 30, 2020) E-mail from Dejazmatch James (MM.New.MM24.31.3)