

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM25.13	ACTION			Ward: 13
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Authorization to Release Section 37 funds to fund the Revitalization of Wellington Street East - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** 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 Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council amend the Approved 2020 - 2029 Council Capital Budget and Plan for Economic Development and Culture by increasing the project cost for the PAR St. Lawrence Market project (CED104-24) by \$343,633.72 gross and \$0 net from \$1,100,000 to \$1,443,633.72 with future cash flow commitment of \$343,633.72 in 2021, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 177, 183, and 197 Front Street East and 15-21 Lower Sherbourne Street and 200 The Esplanade (Source Account: XR3026-3700943), for streetscape improvements on Wellington Street East.

Summary

Work on revitalizing the streetscape on Wellington Street East, between Yonge Street and Church Street, had been underway for approximately a decade. Despite numerous setbacks, the work has now been tendered to begin in the Spring 2021. Following this work, the original budget of approximately \$8 million was revised to require an additional \$343,633.72. Economic Development and Culture has requested that our office find funding for this gap, through the use of section 37 monies.

The St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood Business Improvement Area and the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association have been working to create a safe, attractive streetscape that compliments the work that was completed across the street at Berczy Park. In 2016, City Council approved road alterations to permit a widened boulevard, a curbside Toronto Transit Commission loading area, reduced crossing distances for pedestrians, and a parking lay-by. The widened boulevard will provide an opportunity for significant tree infrastructure to be incorporated in the boulevard, will provide widened pedestrian clearway and permit new space for patios and street furniture.

Despite this 2016 approval, the Wellington Street East streetscape project has been challenged

by coordination with many agencies and divisions, including Toronto Hydro, Enbridge Gas and the Toronto Transit Commission as each has infrastructure on Wellington Street East that required work prior to streetscape working being able to proceed. The Business Improvement Area, Economic Development and Culture, Transportation Services, Urban Forestry and the Toronto Transit Commission have all collectively directed significant funding for this project, as has City Council through previous direction of \$1,900,000 in Section 37 funding.

Funds have been secured from a development at 177, 183, and 197 Front Street East and 15-21 Lower Sherbourne Street and 200 The Esplanade to be used towards local streetscape and/or park improvements in the former Ward 28, which includes Wellington Street East. Of these funds, there currently remains sufficient funds for this Motion that has not been spent or is committed.

City Planning staff advise that the proposed purposes of the funds as set out in the Recommendations of this Motion are in accordance with Council approved guidelines and protocols.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM26.13