

City Council**Motion Without Notice**

MM25.23	ACTION			Ward: 8
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Lawrence Heights Safety and Security Task Force - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Mark Grimes, recommends that:

1. City Council support the creation of a Lawrence Heights Community Safety and Security Task Force to deal with this immediate safety issues, escalation of violence, and shootings in Lawrence Heights.
2. The Task Force should include the following, but not be limited to: City of Toronto's Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit, the Mayor or his representative, Toronto Police Services, Toronto Community Housing and Tenant Representatives, the Toronto District School Board Superintendent and Principals from John Polanyi Secondary School, Lawrence Heights Middle School and Flemington Elementary School, Toronto Community Services including Social Development Finance and Administration's Community Safety and Wellbeing Unit, the local City Councillor, Lawrence Allen Centre Rio Can, the Lawrence Heights Revitalization Development partner and representatives of the Lawrence Heights Community including the Lawrence Heights Inter-Organization Network (LHION), the Lawrence Heights Community Safety Network, the Lawrence Heights Parent's Association and change makers.

Summary

Over 40 reported shooting incidents in the Lawrence Heights Community have occurred over the last year, including the tragic shooting death of Shane Shannon Stanford who was murdered in a drive by shooting on October 7, 2020.

This, despite the tireless efforts of the residents of Lawrence Heights Community and the various agencies working in the Lawrence Heights like the Unison Community Health Centre, Pathways for Education program, Toronto Community Housing Corporation Security and residents groups and despite the successful completion of the residents continue to face non-stop shootings in their community which endangers lives of the residents on the daily basis.

Despite the creation of the New Neighbourhood Policing Program launched this year, the community continues to face non-stop threats to its safety and security from non-stop drive-by shooting.

Given this ongoing escalation of violence that threatens the Lawrence Heights Community these recommendations are being made to Toronto City Council.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM25.23