

City Council

MM30.18	ACTION			Ward: All
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Authorization to enter into a Construction and License Agreement with the Friends of University Avenue for a Lighting Enhancement Project in University Median Park by Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation to negotiate, in consultation with the General Manager, Transportation Services as necessary, and execute on behalf of the City, a Construction and License Agreement and any other necessary ancillary agreements with the Friends of University Avenue to complete, maintain and remove temporary enhancements to University Avenue, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

In 2019, the City of Toronto received an unsolicited proposal from the Friends of University Avenue, a non-profit citizen-led organization. The proposed public realm improvement project consisted of temporary lighting and landscaping enhancements to University Median Park and was envisioned to lift the spirits of patients under care in nearby hospitals.

In its decision on September 30, 2020, City Council adopted Motion MM24.24 that provided support for the Friends of University Avenue's proposal and authorized City staff to negotiate and sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the organization for the temporary lighting and landscaping enhancements.

Furthermore, on February 18, 2021, City Council amended the 2021-2030 Capital Budget and Plan for Parks, Forestry and Recreation in order to provide cash flow commitments of \$50,000 in 2021 and \$50,000 in 2022, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 20 Edward Street (Source Account: XR3026-3701042), for potential infrastructure repairs linked to the enhancement plan within the median on University Avenue between Elm Street and College Avenue.

Friends of University Avenue would like to realize their vision and proposal to bring lighting

and landscaping enhancements to University Median Park. This Motion is required to provide City staff the delegated authority to enter into the agreements necessary to facilitate the installation and erection of the proposed enhancements to University Avenue between College Street and Elm Street. Construction would begin as soon as possible and is anticipated to be completed by Fall 2021.

A Steering Committee, comprised of the Friends of University Avenue and representatives from City Divisions, including: City Planning; Economic Development and Culture; Transportation Services; the Toronto Office of Partnerships; and Parks Forestry and Recreation, continue to collaborate with the Friends of University Avenue team to achieve a viable project that delivers on the intent of the Friends of University Avenue group to make the hospital precinct more welcoming and to honour front-line health care staff.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM30.18