

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM30.20	ACTION			Ward: 10
---------	--------	--	--	----------

Accelerating the Affordable Housing and Cultural Animation Opportunities at 15 Denison Avenue - by Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Housing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer, CreateTO and the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to accelerate plans to redevelop the property located at 15 Denison Avenue for affordable housing use and cultural animation, including that consideration be given to selecting a not-for-profit partner as the development partner, and to report to the Planning and Housing Committee by its May 20, 2021 meeting, with an update and recommendations for seeking and securing a development partner.

Summary

In July 2018, City Council approved my Motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailão, for City staff to explore affordable housing and cultural animation opportunities for 15 Denison Avenue, as an independent and/or joint development opportunity and report back in second quarter of 2019 with a conceptual design and feasibility plan.

In December 2020, City Council again directed City staff to work on a plan to redevelop the property located at 15 Denison Avenue for affordable housing use, and that consideration be given to selecting a not-for-profit partner as the development partner for both of these properties.

I have been hearing from affordable housing providers and cultural organizations that there is tremendous interest in the potential of this property. The effects of COVID-19 have underscored the depth of the affordable housing crisis in Toronto and intensified the serious challenges that were already facing the arts and culture in our City. We must move more quickly to build new affordable housing and support cultural work at 15 Denison Avenue.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM30.20