



Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM31.34	ACTION			Ward: 8
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds from Various Developments to Community Matters Toronto for Mural Art on Bell Utility Boxes in Ward 8 (Eglinton-Lawrence) - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor James Pasternak

** 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 Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor James Pasternak recommends that:

1. City Council increase the approved 2021 Operating Budget for Non-Program, by \$12,000.00 gross, \$0 net, for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to Community Matters Toronto to complete eight murals on Bell Boxes in Ward 8 - Eglinton-Lawrence (Cost Centre: NP2161), fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the following developments as follows:

- a. \$6,000.00 from the development at 1580 Avenue Road, for 4 Bell Box murals in the vicinity of the development (Source Account: XR3026-3701016); and
- b. \$6,000.00 from the development at 2360-2376 Yonge Street and 31-37 Helendale Avenue, for 4 Bell Box murals in the vicinity of the development (Source Account XR3026-3700988).

2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to Community Matters Toronto upon the signing of an Undertaking by Community Matters Toronto that governs the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

Summary

The Bell Box Murals Project is a program of Community Matters Toronto. Since 2009, artists from the Bell Boxes Murals Project have painted murals on Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes throughout Toronto, Southern Ontario and Quebec.

There are many benefits from the Bell Boxes Murals Project, which include:

- Replaces graffiti and vandalism with original works of art by local artists.

- Makes the streets more inviting to residents and visitors.
- Enhances residents' sense of community.
- Art is accessible to all people, regardless of income, language or social stature.
- Creates a public art channel to reflect local culture and heritage.
- Provides income and opportunities for local artists.

Eight Bell utility boxes in the east area of Ward 8 will be identified by Councillor Mike Colle and approved for mural installations by Bell Field Services. The theme and design for the murals will be determined in consultation with local Residents Associations, Business Improvement Area's, and artists. Preference will be given to artists who live or work in Ward 8, however, all artists are welcome to submit an application. The Bell Canada utility box mural project is to be completed in Summer 2021 by the Bell Box Murals Project, represented by Michael Cavanaugh of Community Matters Toronto.

The intent of this Motion is to transfer a total of \$12,000 of Section 37 funds from the developments at 1580 Avenue Road and 2360-2376 Yonge Street to Community Matters Toronto to provide one-time capital funding for the purpose of painting murals on eight Bell utility boxes in the vicinity of those developments in Ward 8 – Eglinton-Lawrence.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM31.34