

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM35.37	ACTION			Ward: All
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Ensuring Accountability and Reflecting the Community's Expectations in Preserving and Protecting the Future of Little Jamaica - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** 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 Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Little Jamaica Interdivisional Team to consult and work with key stakeholders such as BlackUrbansimTO, the Mayor's Roundtable on Black Business, Reclaim, Rebuild, Eglinton Avenue West, CP Planning, Black Business and Professional Association, local Business Improvement Areas and other community organizations and members on developing a Little Jamaica Accountability Table that will:
 - a. provide feedback, monitor and hold to account the implementation of recommendations and commitments approved by City Council in subsequent motions;
 - b. include a clear terms of reference and membership framework; and
 - c. use proven best practices from the Toronto Seniors Strategy Accountability Table.

Summary

In 2020, City Council unanimously adopted a sustainability plan to support the retention and growth of Black-owned and operated businesses, while celebrating, promoting and showcasing the resiliency of the African, Black and Caribbean communities through various short, medium and long-term measures, such as culturally relevant programming, providing financial relief, and the development of a housing strategy plan. Following this, City Council responded to a call from Black communities to preserve the architectural and cultural heritage of Little Jamaica through unanimously adopting a motion that requests City Planning to complete a comprehensive heritage survey.

Building on existing City resources, a Little Jamaica Accountability Table must be developed in order to ensure accountability and successful implementation of aforementioned and future motions. Through developing a Little Jamaica Accountability Table, both the Little Jamaica Interdivisional Team and key stakeholders and community members will be able to work

closely to monitor the implementation of each recommendation through identifying specific actions to be undertaken with specific timelines.

This Motion will empower the City of Toronto to celebrate the identity, and showcase the resiliency of the African, Black and Caribbean communities and their contributions to our City—and provide community members, figuratively and literally, a seat at the table.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM35.37