

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM36.16	ACTION			Ward: All
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Request to Metrolinx to Develop a Community Benefits Program for Neighbourhood Improvement Areas on the Ontario Line - by Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong, seconded by Councillor Jaye Robinson

** 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

Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong, seconded by Councillor Jaye Robinson, recommends that:

1. City Council endorse the proposal that Metrolinx should promote and support the employment of local Neighbourhood Improvement Area residents for the construction of the Ontario Line through the creation of a Community Benefits Program.
2. City Council direct that, by the end of fourth quarter of 2021, the City Manager request Metrolinx to develop a Community Benefits Program that is promoted to all Neighbourhood Improvement Areas on the Ontario Line, with an implementation plan that includes local advertising, job fairs, hiring targets, and training programs.
3. City Council direct the City Manager to report back to the Executive Committee on the Metrolinx response to this request.

Summary

Community Benefit Programs are agreements in which large scale construction projects provide opportunities for participation to residents in the surrounding neighbourhoods. Residents benefit directly from employment and training opportunities in the construction and operations of these projects. Similar programs have been developed and implemented before, such as the Woodbine Live Project.

Flemingdon Park and Thorncliffe Park are Neighbourhood Improvement Areas with large, diverse populations, many who have low incomes or live below the poverty line. The Ontario Line project by Metrolinx has three stations in Flemingdon Park and Thorncliffe Park. An Ontario Line Community Benefits Program would provide important opportunities for equity-seeking communities in close proximity to the planned transit line.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM36.16

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-171197.pdf>