
City Council

Motion without Notice

MM38.48	ACTION			Ward: All
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Streamlined Permit Renewal Application Process for Farmers' Markets - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report to the April 26, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on a new streamlined application process for renewing permits for long-standing farmers' markets in City Parklands.

Summary

There are many fantastic farmers' markets that take place in Toronto parks each year. These markets provide our communities with locally grown, fresh food, they connect Toronto residents to local Ontario farmers and producers, and support healthy communities. They are mostly run by volunteers who commit their time and energy to the success of these much loved annual events.

The current process to renew Special Event permits for City Parklands is time-consuming and burdensome on the volunteers. The forms ask for information that the City of Toronto Permit Office already has on hand for markets that return to the same location year after year. Streamlining this process would reduce the workload on the volunteers and help them obtain permits in a timely manner.

Farmers' markets are loved by residents who flock to them from one end of the city to the other. They provide residents with access to healthy food and they become local community hubs connecting residents of all ages and backgrounds. Reducing the barriers by streamlining the permit process for long-standing markets will help ensure the success of these markets.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM38.48

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-174511.pdf>

