

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM41.14	ACTION			Ward: 13
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Release of Section 37 Funds for a Waterfront Toronto Public Art Commission at the King/Queen Triangle - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy and Councillor Paula Fletcher

** 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 Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy and Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the Council approved 2022 Capital Budget for Economic Development and Culture by \$1,528,150 gross and \$0 debt in project costs with cash flow funding of \$1,528,150 in 2022, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 1-25 Defries Street (Source Account: XR3026-3701147), to create a new project for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to Waterfront Toronto for a public art commission at the King/Queen Triangle.
2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to Waterfront Toronto upon the signing of a Delivery Agreement that governs the use of the funds and that outlines the scope of work, subject to terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture.

Summary

This Motion requests City Council authority to release Section 37 funds from developments located at 1-25 Defries Street to support a public art commission led by Waterfront Toronto at the King/Queen Triangle.

In collaboration with Indigenous Public Art Curator Ryan Rice, the City of Toronto and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Waterfront Toronto released a Request for Qualifications in August 2021 for Indigenous artists to submit public art proposals for King/Queen Triangle. The site is located at the intersection of King, Queen and River Streets, which currently forms the eastern gateway into the Corktown neighbourhood. King/Queen Triangle Indigenous Public Art will contribute towards celebrating and acknowledging historical and contemporary Indigenous visual culture as city placemaking.

In January 2022, three Indigenous artist teams were shortlisted by an Indigenous Evaluation Committee to develop proposals for permanent site-specific public art. In order to rethink the site holistically and comply with the sensitive environmental context of the site's underlying

Flood Protection Landform, artists were required to include a landscape architect on their teams.

The King/Queen Triangle is a unique site situated alongside the route of the Don River, which has been earmarked for public realm improvements. Part of this vision is to transform an undefined, transitory area wedged between high traffic transportation corridors, into a welcoming gathering space for nearby communities and the public at large. This project will invigorate a downtown site and create a cultural venue that draws upon rich and diverse narratives and relationships connecting time and cultures. It will also regenerate an uninterrupted Indigenous presence in the area. By adding meaningful artwork and rethinking the current landscaping, the triangle will shine as a culturally significant illumination of (urban) Indigeneity. The successful Indigenous artwork will also engage Corktown community objectives to celebrate and broaden the history, culture, and significance of this site by transforming it into a welcoming space that ties the diverse neighborhood together.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM41.14