

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM42.12	ACTION			Ward: All
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Addressing Nuisance Watercraft - by Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to report back on opportunities to enhance safety along the waterfront from the Rouge River to the Etobicoke Creek, including the installation of in-water speed signage, educational campaigns, and coordination on enforcement with the Toronto Police Marine Unit.
2. City Council request the City Manager, and all relevant City Divisions to work with the Toronto Police Service to create an action plan to address nuisance watercraft within their jurisdiction.
3. City Council request the General Manager of Parks, Forestry, and Recreation to work with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to identify ways to protect our environmentally sensitive areas from intrusion by motorized personal watercraft.

Summary

Over the last few years, we have seen an increase in the operation of personal watercraft, and other vessels in Lake Ontario. We have seen reports of operators of these watercraft acting dangerously, speeding too close to shore, and entering environmentally sensitive areas and negatively impacting the wildlife. There have been instances in Toronto where negligent operation of these watercraft has resulted in death and injury. More people are turning to the waterfront for recreational activities, and it is imperative that we identify ways to ensure that all people can continue to enjoy the waterfront safely.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM42.12