City Council

| MM42.41 | ACTION | | | Ward: 9 |
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1500-1536 St. Clair Avenue West and 20-36 Caledonia Road -Authorizing Staff to Seek Off- Site Park Dedication in Respect of Official Plan and Zoning Amendment Applications - by Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher

* 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 Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize and direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to seek an off-site park dedication, in respect of the Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment Applications for 1550-1536 St. Clair Avenue West and 20-36 Caledonia Road, and City Council direct that, in the event that satisfactory off-site parkland cannot be secured to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, City Council will accept cash-in-lieu of parkland in accordance with section 42 of the Planning Act; timing of the conveyance or cash-in-lieu shall be in accordance with Chapter 415-28 of the City of Toronto Municipal Code.

Summary

The applicant filed an Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment Application 21 175097 STE 09 OZ, which were deemed complete on June 25, 2021 ("the Applications"). In commenting on the applications, Parks Staff requested an on-site parkland dedication, which the Applications are not showing. The applicant provided a rationale for offsite contribution due to their proximity to Earlscourt Park, contribution of a publicly accessible piazza along St. Clair Avenue West and a landscaped trail next to the rail corridor.

Further, Parks Staff identified a severe community need for more park space in an off-site area. The City of Toronto Parkland Strategy (adopted by City Council in November 2019) identified that the area spanning from Prospect Cemetery in the west to Bathurst Avenue in the east should be a priority area for parkland acquisition and improvements due to the low number of existing parks in the neighbourhood. Given the tight constraints on available land in the area and community calls for more parkland east of the cemetery the only way to achieve more parkland is through acquisition.

This Motion will authorize and direct the City staff to seek an off-site park dedication or, in the alternative, cash-in-lieu, in accordance with section 42 of the Planning Act.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM42.41