

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM42.44	ACTION			Ward: 8
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds from the Development at 1580 Avenue Road to Community Matters Toronto for Mural Art on Bell Utility Boxes in Eglinton-Lawrence - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Anthony Perruzza

** 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 Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Anthony Perruzza, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the Approved 2022 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$13,500.00 gross, \$0 net, on a one-time basis, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the development 1580 Avenue Road, secured for park and streetscape improvements in the area, (Source Account XR3026-3701016) for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to Community Matters Toronto to paint 9 murals Bell Canada outdoor junction cabinets in the vicinity of the development (Cost Centre: NP2161).
2. City Council direct that the funds be forwarded to Community Matters Toronto upon the signing of an Undertaking that governs the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

Summary

The Bell Box Murals Project is a program of Community Matters Toronto. Since 2009, artists from the Bell Boxes Murals Project have painted murals on Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes throughout Toronto, Southern Ontario and Quebec.

The benefits of the Bell Boxes Murals Project include:

- Replaces graffiti and vandalism with original works of art by local artists.
- Makes the streets more inviting to residents and visitors.
- Enhances residents' sense of community.
- Art is accessible to all people, regardless of income, language or social stature.
- Creates a public art channel to reflect local culture and heritage.
- Provides income and opportunities for local artists.

Nine Bell utility boxes in the area of Ward 8 between Avenue Road, Bathurst Street, Lawrence Avenue, and Highway 401 have been identified. The theme for the murals will be determined in consultation with local residents and artists. Preference will be given to artists who live or

work in Ward 8, however, all artists are welcome to submit an application. The Bell Canada utility box mural project is to be completed in Spring/Summer 2022 by the Bell Box Murals Project, represented by Michael Cavanaugh of Community Matters Toronto.

The intent of this motion is to transfer a total of \$13,500 of Section 37 Funds from the development at 1580 Avenue Road to Community Matters Toronto to provide on-time capital funding for the purpose of painting murals on 9 Bell utility boxes in Ward 8.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM42.44