

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM43.39	ACTION			Ward: 11
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Street Vending Permit Transfer to Josifina Sharif - by Councillor Mike Layton, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll

** 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 Layton, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. Despite the prohibition on transferring Sidewalk Vending Permits in section 740-31 of Chapter 740, Street Vending, City Council direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, to transfer Sidewalk Vending Permit R53-2403270 from Amir Sharif to Josifina Sharif without the requirement for a new permit application, provided:

a. all terms and conditions of the permit and other requirements of Chapter 740, Street Vending shall continue to apply; and

b. Josifina Sharif has provided the City with the following to the satisfaction of the Executive Director:

i. a transfer application including such information as required by the Executive Director;

ii. payment of the fee referenced in § 740-8B;

iii. a new agreement with the City;

iv. updated proof of insurance;

v. proof of a valid business license issued by the City; and

vi. proof of the payment of all other applicable fees required by the City.

Summary

Amir and Josifina Sharif have been operators of a hot dog cart at the corner of St George and Bloor since 1998. This business has been the main source of their family income. Sadly, Amir recently passed away and his family has been grieving his loss.

Mr. Sharif was the holder of the Sidewalk Vending Permit and now that he has passed, his wife Josifina is seeking to have the permit transferred to her name to allow her to continue supporting her family as this hotdog cart is their main source of income. However, there is a current moratorium in place which does not allow applications for a Sidewalk Vending Permit to vend refreshments and/or vehicles from a non-motorized vehicle.

Covid has added immense financial pressures to families, particularly to those who rely on these types of businesses which are somewhat precarious in nature, and given that this is the family's main income they cannot afford to lose it.

Members of the local community have expressed that this cart has been an important mainstay of the St. George and Bloor neighbourhood, and a valuable resource for residents, University of Toronto students and faculty and tourists alike. Additionally, the Sharif family has operated the cart without any infractions or violations.

This Motion is urgent because if the permit is not transferred as soon as possible, they will be unable to operate the street vending unit and continue losing income needed to support the family.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM43.39