

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM3.16	ACTION			Ward: 12
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Authorization to Release Section 45 Funds to Toronto District School Board for Winona/McMurrich Senior and Junior Public School Playground and Schoolyard Revitalization - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Toronto and East York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

February 7, 2023 - A Revised Member Motion was posted.

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2023 Operating Budget for Non-Program, subsequent to its approval by \$150,000.00 gross, \$0 net, (cost centre: NP2161) fully funded by Section 45 funds obtained in the development at 834-840 St Clair Avenue West, secured for a range of local community facilities (Source account: XR3028-4500226), for the purpose of providing one time capital funding to the Toronto District School Board for playground improvements at Winona/McMurrich Senior and Junior Public School, subject to the Toronto District School Board entering into an acceptable Community Access Agreement with the City.

2. City Council authorize the Director Strategic Initiatives, Policy and Analysis, City Planning to execute on behalf of the City a Community Access Agreement with the Toronto District School Board governing the use of the funds, the financial reporting requirements and addressing community access to the playground facilities at Winona/McMurrich Senior and Junior Public School, for a term of 20 years, to be prepared in consultation with, and on terms and conditions acceptable to, the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the Ward Councillor, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

3. City Council direct that the \$150,000 in Section 45 funds be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board once the Toronto District School Board has signed an acceptable Community Access Agreement with the City.

4. City Council direct that if a mutually acceptable Community Access Agreement cannot be agreed upon that the funds will not be transferred to the Toronto District School Board and shall be made available for other community facilities in the local community.

Summary

This Motion seeks to contribute \$150,000 of Section 45 funds, to assist Winona/McMurrich Senior and Junior Public School with the construction of a new playground and schoolyard.

The Winona/McMurrich Senior and Junior Public School playground and schoolyard are well used by the school as well as the broader community. This funding will assist with a project that will improve and revitalize the playground, field, basketball courts, and other outdoor areas at the school. This will ensure that the school community and the public have access to outdoor facilities that are safe and enjoyable, while providing increased opportunities for outdoor learning and physical activity.

In the absence of a City playground nearby, the Winona/McMurrich Senior and Junior Public School grounds serve that purpose for the wider community. The Section 37/45 Implementation Guidelines (section 5.7) approved by Council states:

"Cash contributions toward the capital improvement of school board playgrounds are eligible S.37 (s. 45) community benefits where the playground serves as a local park, where the public will continue to have reasonable access for the foreseeable future, and where there is no local City-owned parkland performing a similar function in the same community that could otherwise benefit from the cash contribution."

The funds will be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board once the School Board has entered into a Community Access Agreement with the City, governing the purpose of the funds, the financial reporting requirements, and addressing community access to the improved facilities, to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the City Solicitor, prepared in consultation with the Ward Councillor.

Reason for urgency: This motion is urgent because the Toronto District School Board and school community has requested clarity on funding available to them so that they can move forward with the project as soon as possible.

Background Information (City Council)

Revised Member Motion MM3.16

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-234199.pdf>