

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM7.30	ACTION			Ward: 1
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Request to Accept In-kind Donation of New Playground at Dixon Park - by Councillor Vincent Crisanti, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

** 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 Etobicoke York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.
* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Vincent Crisanti, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to accept the in-kind donation of up to \$250,000 in playground and related equipment from KaBOOM!, Inc. for the Dixon Park playground in compliance with the Policy on Donations to the City of Toronto for Community Benefits.
2. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to enter into an agreement with KaBOOM!, Inc. to accept and install the playground equipment at Dixon Park on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

KaBOOM!, a U.S.-based charity active in Canada, has proposed a donation of new playground equipment and enhancements for Dixon Park. This Motion will provide staff with the necessary authority to accept an in-kind donation valued up to \$250,000 from KaBOOM!, Inc. and to enter into an agreement with KaBOOM!, Inc. in accordance with City policy.

The KaBOOM! mission is to provide a playground within walking distance of every child in North America. KaBOOM! recruits funding partners to provide the funds to purchase the playground equipment. KaBOOM! has been a partner previously with the City of Toronto in other playground donations, including successful builds in Glanmorgan Park (2019), Heron Park (2017), Driftwood Parkette (2016), and MacGregor Park (2014).

Centre to the KaBOOM! philosophy is the involvement of the local community in the design and building of the playground, to strengthen community bonds. In the case of Dixon Park, Parks, Forestry and Recreation is working with a number of local stakeholders to identify a 2023 community partner. The involvement of a community partner is not mandatory, however, would provide meaningful contributions in recruiting volunteers and helping to organize the project, under the supervision of Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff will work with the local councillor, the community and donors to develop and design a new playground with various components in accordance with City standards. Proposed build days are in late September 2023. Site preparation will take place in advance of a final build day with volunteers, donors, and Parks, Forestry and Recreation. All work would be done in accordance with the City's policies and contractual obligations, including the Fair Wage Policy and Contractual Obligations in the Construction Industry Policies.

The new playground would replace an aging junior play space on the site. As such, ongoing maintenance and inspection is already part of the Parks, Forestry and Recreation operating budget.

This Motion is considered urgent to meet donor deadlines and to assure sufficient time for the playground equipment to be fabricated prior to installation.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM7.30