

**City Council**

MM8.2	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Authority to Enter Into Nominal Fee Licence Agreements with Four Existing Food Bank Operators at Six Parks, Forestry and Recreation Locations - by Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*\* This Motion is subject to referral to the General Government Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to negotiate and sign, on behalf of the City of Toronto, nominal fee licence agreements with the local organizations listed below, to facilitate the continued distribution of food at the Community spaces listed below for an initial five year term, commencing on approximately August 1, 2023, renewable for an additional five year term at the sole discretion of, and on terms and conditions acceptable to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor:

a. Local Organizations:

- i. The Incorporated Ministry in Flemingdon Park;
- ii. FoodShare Toronto;
- iii. North York Harvest Food Bank; and
- iv. Society for the Living; and

b. Community Spaces:

- i. Angela James Arena, Ward 16, Don Valley East;
- ii. Flemingdon Community Centre, Ward 16, Don Valley East;
- iii. Herbert H. Carnegie Arena, Ward 6, York Centre;
- iv. Reading Sprouts Garden, Ward 7, Humber River-Black Creek;
- v. Lawrence Heights Community Recreation Centre, Ward 8, Eglinton-Lawrence; and

vi. Oakdale Community Centre, Ward 7, Humber River-Black Creek.

2. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to extend existing permits during the interim period, as required, until the agreements referenced in Recommendation 1 are executed.

### **Summary**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of Community spaces were made available to local organizations in order to support food security initiatives. These spaces were made available at no cost in response to the growing need, and new and existing organizations emerged to serve community needs. Providing access to food security services locally fosters a sense of community that is culturally sensitive and accessible.

In the wake of the pandemic, the need for accessible space in communities to support these initiatives continues. Currently, four organizations are using spaces at six locations (both indoor space and storage containers in parking lots). These locations provide tremendous value to the community, and provide approximately 30 hours of food distribution to approximately 1,500 individuals per week. The existing permit arrangement is set to expire at the end of July, and new agreements need to be entered into.

The services provided primarily focus on the distribution of food, both non-perishable and fresh food items, including produce from community gardens. Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have witnessed the positive role these specific groups have played at these locations, and recommends continuing to facilitate access for these identified groups. The current hours/days of use can be facilitated without disrupting the provision of recreation programs and services.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM8.2