

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM8.39	ACTION			Ward: 12
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Providing More Public Access to Fairbank Memorial Park During Trunk Sewer Construction Project - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

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

1. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry & Recreation to provide public access to the fenced baseball diamond in Fairbank Memorial Park during non-permitted periods and post appropriate signage regarding hours of use and the requirement to keep dogs on leashes.

Summary

Public access has been drastically reduced to Fairbank Memorial Park near Dufferin and Eglinton due to construction of the Fairbank Silverthorn Storm Trunk Sewer. While this infrastructure upgrade is necessary to prevent basement flooding across a large portion of Toronto, the loss of park and recreation space until 2026 is a tough pill to swallow for a community that is still impacted by the ongoing Metrolinx Crosstown project.

Toronto Water requires the majority of the park to use as a launch site for the project's tunnel boring machine. However, the baseball diamond site at the south of the park is not required. Unfortunately, the wider community is unable to use the one portion of the park not impacted by construction as the diamond remains locked outside of permitted hours.

This motion requests City Staff to provide public access to the baseball diamond at Fairbank Memorial Park during non-permitted hours and to post appropriate signage.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM8.39