

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM13.4	ACTION			Ward: 17
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds for Bayview Village Participatory Budgeting Projects - by Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Chris Moise

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

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

Recommendations

Councillor Shelley Carroll, seconded by Councillor Chris Moise, recommends that:

1. City Council amend Parks, Forestry and Recreation's 2023 Capital Budget and 2024-2032 Capital Plan for the following:
 - a. reduce the project cost and 2024 cashflow of the former Ward 24 Park Improvements sub-project, in the Park Development project, by \$430,000 with funding from the Section 37 funds obtained from the development at 591 and 593 Sheppard Ave East (Source Account: XR3026-3700776); and
 - b. create a new capital sub-project known as Bayview Village Participatory Budgeting Projects, with a project cost of \$330,000, cash flowed in 2024, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the development at 591 and 593 Sheppard Ave East (Source Account: XR3026-3700776) for the purpose of implementing local capital improvements in Blue Ridge Park, Clarinda Park, Rean Park, and Elkhorn Park, decided using Participatory Budgeting.
2. City Council amend Transportation Services 2023 Capital Budget and 2024-2032 Capital Plan to create a new capital sub-project known as Bayview Village Participatory Budgeting Project (account CTP423-06), with a project cost of \$90,000, and cash flow of \$30,000 in 2024 and \$60,000 in 2025, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the development at 591 and 593 Sheppard Avenue East (Source Account: XR3026-3700776) for the purpose of implementing local capital improvements decided using Participatory Budgeting, including sign plates to street signs and concrete planters at the entrances, both in the Bayview Village neighbourhood.
3. City Council increase the 2023 Operating Budget for Heritage Toronto by \$10,000 gross, \$0 net, on a one-time basis, for the purpose of undertaking the Bayview Village Participatory Budgeting Project, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the development at 591 and 593 Sheppard Avenue East (Source Account: XR3026-3700776) for the purpose of installing a historical plaque at Thomas Clarke House.

Summary

Participatory Budgeting is a system of direct democracy where residents suggest and then vote on how public funds are spent within their community. In May 2023, the local Councillor initiated a Participatory Budgeting process in Bayview Village community by hosting an Information Session and Ideas Generation Meeting. Local residents suggested over 70 project ideas which were then evaluated by City Staff in Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Transportation Services to assess costs and determine feasibility.

In Fall 2023, the local Councillor advertised the November 3, 4, and 5, 2023 Participatory Budgeting Vote Days through various channels, including over 10,000 mailed flyers. Hundreds of votes were cast and the following projects were successful:

1. \$90,000 to improve the pathway in Blue Ridge Park
2. \$100,000 to improve the stairs at Clarinda Park
3. \$100,000 to add fitness equipment to Clarinda Park
4. \$70,000 to add sign plates to every street sign in the Bayview Village neighbourhood
5. \$15,000 to add picnic tables and benches to Rean Park
6. \$20,000 to improve the concrete planters at the entrances to the Bayview Village neighbourhood
7. \$15,000 to add benches and seating stones to Bayview Village Park
8. \$10,000 to add benches to Elkhorn Park
9. \$10,000 to install a historical plaque at Thomas Clarke House

The 2023-2032 Capital Budget and Plan for Parks, Forestry and Recreation includes a sub-project known as former Ward 24 Park Improvements, in the Park Development project, with cash flow of \$99,980 in 2023 and \$1,475,000 in 2024. This Service Improvement project includes funding of \$502,352 cash flowed in 2024, funded from Section 37 community benefits received from 591 and 593 Sheppard Avenue East (source account: XR3026-3700776) to be allocated to capital improvements that will benefit the community, including parks, streetscape and public art.

This motion requests that \$430,000 in Section 37 community benefits received from 591 and 593 Sheppard Avenue East be relocated from Parks, Forestry and Recreation's former Ward 24 Park Improvements project to three new Bayview Village Participatory Budgeting projects, amending the 2023-2032 Capital Budget and Plan for Parks, Forestry and Recreation, for a new capital project in the amount of \$330,000 and a new capital project for Transportation Services in the amount of \$90,000 and increasing the 2023 Approved Operating Budget for Heritage Toronto by \$10,000 gross and \$0 net on a one-time basis.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM13.4