

City Council

Notice of Motion

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| MM16.12 | ACTION | | | Ward: 13 |
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**Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds for Ward 13 2023
Participatory Budgeting Projects for the Canary District, Corktown and
Distillery District Neighbourhoods - by Councillor Chris Moise,
seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll**

** 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.*

**A Revised Member Motion and a Revised Appendix A were posted on March 18, 2024.*

Recommendations

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

1. City Council amend the 2024-2033 Capital Budget and Plan of Transportation Services Division to create a new capital sub-project for the development of the following projects, as outlined in Appendix A:

a. \$80,000.00 gross, \$0 debt, fully funded by Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Fund) community benefits obtained from the development at 18-32 Eastern Avenue, 1 Gilead Place and 2 Sackville Street (Source Account: XR3026-3701230) for the purpose of installing 10 Corktown-themed tree guards within the Corktown neighbourhood (Cost Centre: CPT424-02); and

b. \$150,000.00 gross, \$0 debt, fully funded by Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Fund) community benefits obtained from the development at 1-25 Defries Avenue (Source Account: XR3026-3701146) for the purpose of enhancing disused parking laybys on Bayview Avenue by installing permanent planters (Cost Centre CPT424-03).

2. City Council direct that the use of Section 37 community benefits be prominently recognized in documents and promotional materials, including on any construction hoarding, in consultation with the Ward Councillor.

Summary

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a system of direct democracy where residents imagine how their neighbourhood could be improved, suggest potential ideas and then vote on how funds are spent to improve their community through capital projects. 2023 was the first year Participatory Budgeting was implemented in Toronto Centre to determine how community benefits funding should be allocated.

Between May 25 to November 1, 2023, my office hosted online and in-person engagements with local residents and business improvement areas to crowdsource ideas. These ideas were then vetted for costing and feasibility with City staff and presented to the local community to vote on which projects they would like to see funded.

In the Canary District, Corktown and Distillery District neighbourhoods, four projects were supported by the local community that fit within the allocated budget of \$750,000:

- 10 new iron tree guards;
- new planters along the Bayview Avenue cycle tracks;
- new interactive lighting above Underpass Park; and
- King-Queen Triangle Parkette improvements.

The release of funds for these projects will allow for locally supported capital projects to move forward in a timely manner. As Waterfront Toronto has a current project to improve the King-Queen Triangle Parkette, a review of additional improvements and release of additional funding may follow that project. New interactive lighting above Underpass Park is still under review by City staff.

Background Information (City Council)

Revised Member Motion MM16.12

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-244308.pdf>

Revised Appendix A: List of Participatory Budgeting Projects

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-244311.pdf>