

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM16.30	ACTION			Ward: 13
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**Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds for Ward 13 2023
Participatory Budgeting Projects for the Bay Cloverhill, Bloor East,
Church Wellesley and Upper Jarvis 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. \$150,000.00 gross, \$0 debt, fully funded by Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Fund) community benefits obtained from the development at 951-971 Bay Street and 36 Wellesley Street West (Source Account: XR3026-3700644) for the purpose of installing bump outs on both corners of St. Joseph Street at Bay Street and Yonge Street (Cost Centre: CPT424-04);

2. City Council amend Parks, Forestry and Recreation's 2024-2033 Capital Budget and Plan for the Barbara Hall Park Redevelopment sub-project in the Park Development project, in the amount of \$350,000 gross, \$0 debt, increasing the total project cost from \$300,000 to \$650,000 with cash flow commitment in 2025, fully funded by Section 37 funds obtained from the development 55-61 Charles Street East (source account: XR3026-3701045) and allocated explicitly to improvements of the Barbara Hall Park Dog Off-Leash Area as part of the overall project.

3. City Council increase the 2024 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$80,000.00, fully funded by Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Fund) community benefits at 55-61 Charles Street East (Source account is XR3026-3701045) for the purpose of forwarding funds to the Church-Wellesley Village Business Improvement Area for a new mural above Wellesley Station (16 Wellesley Street East) as outlined in Appendix A (Cost Centre NP2161).

4. City Council direct that the \$80,000.00 be forwarded to the Church-Wellesley Village

Business Improvement Area, subject to the Business Improvement Area signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

5. City Council increase the 2024 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$80,500.00, fully funded by Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Fund) community benefits at 480-492 Yonge Street (Source account is XR3026-3700909) for the purpose of forwarding funds to STEPS Public Art for two new murals on St. Luke Lane as outlined in Appendix A (Cost Centre NP2161).

6. City Council direct that the \$80,500.00 be forwarded to STEPS Public Art, subject to the organization signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

7. 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 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 Bay Cloverhill, Bloor East, Church Wellesley and Upper Jarvis neighbourhoods, six projects supported by the local community that fit within the allocated budget of \$750,000:

- new tree planters along St. Nicholas Street and Irwin Street;
- installation of bump-outs for pedestrian safety on St. Joseph Street between Bay Street and Yonge Street;
- mural installation at 16 Wellesley Street East;
- mural installation on St. Luke Lane (behind 530 Yonge Street);
- mural installation at 145 St. Luke Lane; and
- Barbara Hall Park Off-Leash Area Renewal.

The release of funds for these projects will allow for locally supported capital projects to move forward in a timely manner. Funding for the Barbara Hall Park Dog-Off-Leash Area Renewal will be released immediately to Parks, Forestry and Recreation as part of the existing Barbara Hall Park Revitalization capital project already underway. However, the improvements will follow the timeline of the full park revitalization schedule and plan. A future motion will provide funding for new tree planters along St. Nicholas Street and Irwin Street after more detailed review with staff.

Background Information (City Council)

Revised Member Motion MM16.30

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-244309.pdf>)

Revised Appendix A - List of Participatory Budgeting Projects

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-244312.pdf>)

