

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM16.40	ACTION			Ward: All
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Advancing Justice Centres in Toronto - by Councillor Amber Morley, seconded by Councillor Lily Cheng

** 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 Amber Morley, seconded by Councillor Lily Cheng, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Executive Director of Social Development Finance and Administration to extend existing agreements with the Ministry of Attorney General and to receive \$412 thousand to support the ongoing implementation of Justice Centres in Toronto.
- 2, City Council amend the 2024 Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration by a one-time increase of \$412 thousand gross and \$0 net, fully funded from revenues received from the Ministry of Attorney General.

Summary

Ontario's Justice Centre pilots are innovative community courts premised on the co-location and integrated service delivery of justice, city, health and social services. By moving justice out of the traditional courtroom and into a community setting, justice participants collaborate and coordinate with on-site social, health, mental health, addictions and housing providers to provide holistic wrap-around services for vulnerable accused persons to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for Toronto's most justice-involved and high-needs communities.

The City in partnership with the Provincial Government (Ministry of Attorney General) are piloting two Justice Centres in Toronto the Toronto North West and Toronto Downtown East. The partnership with and investment by the Ministry of Attorney General intentionally applies City-led tools, resources and expertise, leverages City infrastructure and builds the capacity of specialized community service providers to better support Justice involved Torontonians. Applying a cross-government approach to Justice Centres advances twelve actions of SafeTO, Toronto's Ten-Year Community Safety and Well-Being Plan including:

- 1.2 Implement Life Stabilization and Service Navigation Supports
- 4.3: Strengthen Access to Community Justice by Prioritizing Culturally-Responsive Reintegration and Restorative Practices, including Justice Centres

The 2024 approved Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration is proposed to be increased by \$412 thousand gross and \$0 net, fully funded from revenues received from the Ministry of Attorney General to be allocated as follows:

- a) \$100 thousand to further support the City of Toronto and community partners to provide enhanced wrap-around services and supports for 2SLGBTQIA+ Justice Centre Participants.
- b) \$100 thousand to further support the City of Toronto and community partners to provide prevention-focused drop-in arts and performance programming for Black Justice Centre Participants.
- c) \$32 thousand to support Downtown East Justice Centre program development, research, and evaluation activities.
- d) \$180 thousand to provide enhanced gender equitable counselling and life stabilization services for individuals in the downtown east at the intersection of poverty, homelessness, isolation, mental health, and addictions.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM16.40