

**City Council****Notice of Motion**

MM20.11	ACTION			Ward: 19
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**Improving Access to Outdoor Ovens in City Parks - by Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation, to review the 2011 Outdoor Ovens in City Parks Policy and related procedures from a customer service and equity perspective and to identify opportunities, if any, to reduce administrative or financial barriers to the community use of outdoor ovens, while ensuring that public health and safety and liability considerations continue to be met, and report back to the Economic and Community Development Committee by the first quarter of 2025 with proposed recommendations and rationale for updates to the policy.

**Summary**

The ten outdoor bake ovens located in City of Toronto parks provide focal points in the community for gathering, preparing, and enjoying food in a park. Many have active volunteer groups who regularly bring neighbours together to use and enjoy these public facilities.

Outdoor ovens are available for use by members of the public who obtain a permit for occasional use, and by registered charities and not-for-profit organizations that enter into longer-term agreements with Parks, Forestry, and Recreation.

The use of outdoor ovens in City Parks is governed by the Outdoor Ovens in City Parks Policy, which was adopted by City Council in 2011. The policy requires that in addition to obtaining insurance, all permit applicants must demonstrate that:

- a. the programming offered at the outdoor oven supports the local community, the mandate of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and/or the goals of the Toronto Food Strategy; and
- b. public health and safety requirements are met, including proof of training on the safe operation of an outdoor oven, compliance with safe food handling and preparation requirements, fire safety measures and proof of general liability insurance.

The purpose of this motion is to request staff to review the 2011 policy from a customer service and equity perspective, and to identify opportunities to remove administrative or financial

barriers that prevent community use of outdoor ovens, while ensuring that public health and safety requirements continue to be upheld.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM20.11

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-247797.pdf>)