City Council

Notice of Motion

MM20.20	ACTION			Ward: 18
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Jurisdictional Research on Municipal Fiscal Frameworks - by Councillor Lily Cheng, seconded by Mayor Olivia Chow

* 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 Lily Cheng, seconded by Mayor Olivia Chow, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, in consultation with the City Manager, to conduct jurisdictional research on intergovernmental funding relationships for comparable cities around the world and report back with any findings in advance of the 2025 budget process to inform ongoing intergovernmental discussions regarding municipal fiscal frameworks.

Summary

The City of Toronto generates more than 20 percent of Canada's Gross Domestic Product and 50 percent of Ontario's Gross Domestic Product. Despite our economic strength and contribution, we find ourselves consistently short on resources to fulfill our potential as a world-class city.

As the largest city in Canada and the fourth largest city in North America, Toronto has unique challenges and responsibilities that cannot be adequately supported by an operational budget that is primarily built on property taxes. As we advocate for a new fiscal framework or a "new deal", we can learn from world-class cities around the globe. A jurisdictional scan of fiscal frameworks can help us strengthen our advocacy for the support of higher levels of government towards a more robust budget for the city of Toronto.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM20.20 (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-247818.pdf)