

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM22.3	ACTION			Ward: 16
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Ensuring a Complete Community in Don Mills by Having Places to Play, Visit, Work and Study - by Councillor Jon Burnside, seconded by Councillor Parthi Kandavel

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Jon Burnside, seconded by Councillor Parthi Kandavel, recommends that:

1. City Council express its support for the remaining City-owned lands at 770 Don Mills Road (Ontario Science Centre), not covered by the proposed Housing Now site, to remain solely for recreational and educational purposes.

Summary

This motion seeks to have the City support the maintenance of recreational and educational uses on the site of the current Ontario Science Centre located at 770 Don Mills Road. The Province has announced the closing of the Ontario Science Centre at its current location in Don Mills. Further, they have indicated it will be relocated to Ontario Place on the waterfront.

As part of the New Deal between the City and the Province it was agreed “The Province agreeing to discuss partnership opportunities with the City for maintaining public, community-oriented science programming at the legacy Ontario Science Centre.”

Given that the Flemingdon Park area located next to the Science Centre has a population density of 110 people per hectare and already has approved development that will nearly double that density and population to just under 40,000 or 188 people per hectare and could increase to 60,000 residents or 278 people per hectare with applications under review, the need to develop complete communities has never been more important.

Two Housing Now sites are planned for the corner of Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue. East. The first will have 1,254 residential units spread over three towers on the southwest corner, which is currently the north parking lot of the Ontario Science Centre, the second Housing Now site consists of 840 residential units in two buildings at the southeast corner.

Toronto needs places not only to live, but to play, visit, work and study. In short, we need complete communities. The residents of Flemingdon Park and Thorncliffe Park have made this perfectly clear and the key role the Science Centre plays in the community.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM22.3

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-248999.pdf>)