

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM22.7	ACTION			Ward: 13
--------	--------	--	--	----------

Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds for 2023 Participatory Budgeting Projects for the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood - Vinyl Wrapped Garbage Receptacle Pilot in Old Town Toronto Business Improvement Area - 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.*

Recommendations

Councillor Chris Moise, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2024 Operating Budget for Non-Program on a one-time basis by \$20,000 gross, \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained from the development at 89, 97 and 99 Church Street secured for capital projects (Source Account: XR3026-3701195), for the purpose of providing one-time capital funding to STEPS Public Art for the installation of custom vinyl-wraps onto 6 garbage receptacles in the business impact analysis (Cost Centre: NP2161), as outlined in Appendix A.
2. City Council direct that \$20,000.00 be forwarded to STEPS Public Art, subject to the organization signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

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 St. Lawrence Neighbourhood, nine projects were supported by the local community that fit within the allocated budget of \$750,000. One of the projects, Custom vinyl-wrapped garbage receptacles, required additional review.

The release of funds for these projects would allow for locally supported capital projects to move forward in a timely manner.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM22.7

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-249146.pdf>)

Appendix A - List of Participatory Budgeting Projects

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-249168.pdf>)