

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM22.32	ACTION			Ward: 10
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Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds for a New Skating Rink at Harbourfront Centre - by Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik, seconded by Councillor Amber Morley

** 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

Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik, seconded by Councillor Amber Morley, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2024 Operating Budget for Economic Development and Culture on a one-time basis by \$425,000.00 gross and \$0 net, fully funded by Section 37 community benefits obtained in the development at 335, 355 King Street West and 119 Blue Jays Way (Source Account: XR3026-3701332), for the purpose of forwarding funds to Harbourfront Centre for the installation of a skating rink (Cost Centre: AH0017).
2. City Council authorize the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to enter into and execute a funding agreement with Harbourfront Centre that governs the use of the funds, on such terms deemed necessary and appropriate by the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

This motion requests authority from City Council to release \$425,000 in Section 37 funding to Harbourfront Centre for the development of a new skating rink.

As one of Toronto’s iconic waterfront destinations, Harbourfront Centre serves as a year-round attraction, drawing a wide range of visitors and supporting the local economy through tourism and events. The previous skating rink, which had been a fixture at Harbourfront Centre for decades, was decommissioned last year as a result of significant maintenance and safety challenges. Its closure marked the end of an era for many who had fond memories of skating against the picturesque backdrop of Lake Ontario.

A new rink will not only preserve the beloved tradition of skating at the lakefront, but also create a modern, safe, and accessible space for both locals and visitors. It will continue to provide a venue for outdoor activity and social engagement, supporting both physical health and community building in the colder months. The skating rink, alongside other public programming, will ensure that Harbourfront Centre remains a key element of the city’s cultural and recreational landscape all year round.

Reason for Urgency: This motion is urgent as funds are needed prior to the next regular meeting of City Council to ensure that the rink can be prepared in time for the winter season.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM22.32