

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM28.29	ACTION			Ward: 13
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Authorization to Reallocate Section 37 Funds to STEPS for a Mural at Wellesley Station - 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 amend its previous decision on Item 2024.MM16.30 by:

a. amending Part 3 by:

1. deleting the words “the Church-Wellesley Village Business Improvement Area” and replacing them with the words “STEPS Public Art”; and

b. amending Part 4 by:

1. deleting the words “the Church-Wellesley Village Business Improvement Area” after the words “be forwarded to” and replacing them with “STEPS Public Art”; and

2. deleting the words “the Business Improvement Area” after the words “subject to” and replacing them with “STEPS Public Art”;

so that Parts 3 and 4 now read as follows:

3. City Council increase the 2024 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$80,000.00, fully funded by Section 37 (Planning Act Reserve Fund) community benefits at 55-61 Charles Street East (Source Account: XR3026-3701045) for the purpose of forwarding funds to STEPS Public Art for a new mural above Wellesley Station (16 Wellesley Street East) as outlined in Appendix A (Cost Centre: NP2161).

4. City Council direct that the \$80,000.00 be forwarded to STEPS Public Art, subject to STEPS Public Art signing an Undertaking governing the use of the funds and the financial reporting requirements.

2. City Council direct that the use of Section 37 community benefits be prominently recognized in documents and promotional materials, including on any construction hoarding, in

consultation with the Ward Councillor as a requirement within the Undertaking between the City and STEPS.

Summary

Participatory Budgeting is a democratic process that empowers residents to shape their neighbourhoods. Following a process to brainstorm potential neighbourhood improvements, projects were evaluated by City staff for cost and feasibility. These proposals were presented to the local community for a vote to determine which projects received funding.

In 2023, the Wellesley Station Mural Project emerged as the second most popular choice in Participatory Budgeting for the Bay Cloverhill, Church-Wellesley and Upper Jarvis neighbourhoods, garnering 40 percent of the votes. However, further discussion with the private property owner and a shift in the direction of the Church-Wellesley Village Business Improvement Area, the project's leadership will now transition to STEPS Public Art and the Toronto Transit Commission.

This motion is necessary to redirect the previously approved funds to STEPS Public Art.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM28.29

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-253649.pdf>)