

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM29.19	ACTION			Ward: 23
---------	--------	--	--	----------

Building Quality Public Parks and Public Spaces in Scarborough North - by Councillor Jamaal Myers, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow

** 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

Councillor Jamaal Myers, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Development Review to bring forward at the earliest opportunity city-initiated amendments to the Zoning By-laws identified in Attachment 1 in order to:

a. re-allocate the unspent Section 37 funds towards other capital facility improvements within Ward 23 – Scarborough North; and;

b. to allow for the re-allocation of Section 37 funds to be directed towards another purpose if said funds have not been used for its intended purpose within three years.

2. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to identify and explore partnership opportunities for Scarborough North that support Council-adopted park or recreation needs and priorities.

Summary

Over the past few years, the importance of ensuring all Torontonians have equitable access to parks and public spaces has been driven home starkly. It is vital, especially for equity-seeking communities of colour, to have quality parks which support mental health, community resilience and a sense of belonging.

As highlighted through the PanAm Games in 2015, and the upcoming FIFA World Cup next year, investment in sports can help to build communities. However, this is only true if we use these opportunities strategically to address the uneven distribution of sports resources across the City.

While physical activity and healthier lifestyles begin with access to high-quality, accessible sports facilities, that is just the start of helping ensure every child and community member have an opportunity to thrive through sport. Partnerships providing underserved youth with access to safe, inclusive, and free sports programs in collaboration with organizations that use sports for social good is a key part of the picture. Furthermore, building a diverse and educated network

of coaches and referees is vital to surmounting financial and cultural barriers that limit participation in sport.

Working together with community and educational stakeholders who have expressed interest, we will be able to build happier, healthier, and more equitable communities.

The language in this motion has been drafted and approved by staff in Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Community Planning and CreateTO.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM29.19

Attachment 1 - Building Quality Public Parks and Public Spaces in Scarborough North

(<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-254843.pdf>)