

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM32.29	ACTION			Ward: 18
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Authorization to Release Section 45 Funds from the Developments at 4726-4728 Yonge Street, 9-31 Bogert Avenue and 2-28 Poyntz Avenue for the Capital Improvements to the Schoolyard at Avondale Public School - by Councillor Lily Cheng, seconded by Councillor James Pasternak

** 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 Lily Cheng, seconded by Councillor James Pasternak, recommends that:

1. City Council increase the 2025 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$50,000.00 gross, \$0 net, (Cost Centre: NP2161) fully funded by Section 45 funds obtained in the development at 4726-4728 Yonge Street, 9-31 Bogert Avenue and 2-28 Poyntz Avenue (Source Account: XR3028-4500139), secured for community benefits, for the purpose of providing one-time capital funding to the Toronto District School Board for capital improvements to the schoolyard at Avondale Public School, subject to the following conditions:

a. the Toronto District School Board will enter into an acceptable Community Access Agreement with the City; and

b. the design of the improvements will be to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and the General Manager, Parks and Recreation, in consultation with the Ward Councillor.

2. City Council request the General Manager, Parks and Recreation to participate in the preparation of the Community Access Agreement, in consultation with the Ward Councillor and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, provided acceptable terms can be agreed upon.

3. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks and Recreation, to execute on behalf of the City a Community Access Agreement with the Toronto District School Board for the capital improvements to the schoolyard at Avondale Public School, for a term of 25 years and on such other terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Parks and Recreation, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

4. City Council direct that if a mutually acceptable Community Access Agreement cannot be agreed upon that the funds will not be transferred to the Toronto District School Board and

shall be made available for other community benefits in the local community.

Summary

Avondale Public School re-opened in 2019 with a brand new three-storey building. But just a few years later, it's already over capacity. The school now serves approximately 1,000 students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, well beyond the 861 it was built for, and 7 portables have been added on a nearby property to keep up.

This is a clear sign that growth in the Avondale community is outpacing the infrastructure meant to support it. The school's overcrowding mirrors a wider challenge in the neighbourhood, where thousands of new residents are moving in, but public spaces and services haven't kept up.

Over 14,400 people live within a 5-10 minute walk of the school, many in nearby high-rises. For them, the Avondale schoolyard is a key accessible outdoor space that local residents can use on evenings and weekends.

The Avondale PS Parent Council and the school administration are requesting that the city provide partial funds in support of upgrading the Toronto District School Board-owned yard. Investing in this multi-use space will help foster social connectivity and more play opportunities. This presents a valuable opportunity to provide amenities not yet available in the community, including:

- A pollinator Garden to support ECO initiatives and invite community member engagement to water, weed, etc.;
- A turfed soccer field; and
- An upgrade to the playscape area to appeal to the older students, with seating and shade.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM32.29