

NOTICE OF MOTION

Expanding Parkland to Serve the Growing King-Spadina and Wellington Place Neighbourhoods

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Malik

Seconded by: Councillor Perks

SUMMARY:

The King-Spadina area is a diverse and growing Downtown neighbourhood roughly between Bathurst Street to Simcoe Street and Richmond Street West to Front Street West, which includes the long-standing Wellington Place neighbourhood. Overall, King-Spadina has experienced a significant increase in residential population growth over the past ten years and continues to hold a concentration of businesses and jobs, arts and culture destinations, and significant heritage resources.

The entire King-Spadina neighbourhood falls within an Area of Parkland Need as defined by the City's Parkland Strategy. Parkland provision rates in this neighbourhood are very low, between 0.9 to 3.9 square metres per person. The city-wide average for parkland provision is 28 square metres per person. Parkland provision rates in the King-Spadina Area are expected to decline as growth continues.

Limited inventory, competitive market conditions, built-up urban form, and small parcel fabrics have presented challenges for acquiring new parkland and expanding existing parks within this area. The City should actively pursue opportunities for new partnerships and creative solutions for growing the parkland network in the King-Spadina neighbourhood.

The recommendation in this motion aligns with the objectives of the in-force King Spadina Secondary Plan, King Spadina Heritage Conservation District and the Downtown Plan, as well as the Council-adopted King Spadina Public Realm Strategy and Downtown Parks and Public Realm Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks and Recreation and the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management in consultation with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to explore opportunities to deliver new parkland and community space within the King-Spadina area to serve rapidly growing residential and employment populations in this Downtown neighbourhood.

Date: July 6, 2026