

From: [Chizara Anucha](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: [External Sender] Re: Re: Item MPB38.1 – 2026 Operating and Capital Budget (City-wide)
Date: February 9, 2026 6:01:31 PM

Hello Marjolaine,

My full name is Chizara Anucha and I work in the capacity of Community Action Program Manager at Sumac Community Food Centre.

Thank you,
Chizara

On Mon, Feb 9, 2026 at 4:38 PM councilmeeting <councilmeeting@toronto.ca> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you for your comments on Item MPB38.1.

In order to process your communication so that it can be included with the Item when it is considered by council, please provide us with your **full name** “as comments that are submitted anonymously will not be accepted or form part of the official meeting record on that item.”

Please see the link below for more information on submitting comments to meetings of Council and Committees:

<https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/council/council-committee-meetings/have-your-say/>

Thank you,

Marjolaine Prudencio

City Clerk's Office

From: Chizara Anucha <chizara@righttofood.ca>
Sent: February 9, 2026 4:25 PM
To: Mayor Chow <Mayor_Chow@toronto.ca>
Cc: councilmeeting <councilmeeting@toronto.ca>; Paul Johnson (City Manager)

<Paul.R.Johnson@toronto.ca>; Mohamed Shuriye <Mohamed.Shuriye@toronto.ca>; sdp.regentpark@gmail.com; Councillor Moise <Councillor_Moise@toronto.ca>; Councillor Carroll <Councillor_Carroll@toronto.ca>; Councillor Ainslie <councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca>; Councillor Bradford <Councillor_Bradford@toronto.ca>; Councillor Bravo <Councillor_Bravo@toronto.ca>; Councillor Burnside <Councillor_Burnside@toronto.ca>; Councillor Cheng <Councillor_Cheng@toronto.ca>; Councillor Chernos Lin <Councillor_ChernosLin@toronto.ca>; Councillor Colle8 <Councillor_Colle8@toronto.ca>; Councillor Crisanti <councillor_crisanti@toronto.ca>; Councillor Fletcher <councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca>; Councillor Holyday <Councillor_Holyday@toronto.ca>; Councillor Kandavel <Councillor_Kandavel@toronto.ca>; Councillor Malik <Councillor_Malik@toronto.ca>; Councillor Mantas <Councillor_Mantas@toronto.ca>; Councillor Matlow <councillor_matlow@toronto.ca>; Councillor Morley <Councillor_Morley@toronto.ca>; Councillor Myers <Councillor_Myers@toronto.ca>; Councillor Nunziata <Councillor_Nunziata@toronto.ca>; Councillor Pasternak <Councillor_Pasternak@toronto.ca>; Councillor Perks <Councillor_Perks@toronto.ca>; Councillor Perruzza <Councillor_Perruzza@toronto.ca>; Councillor Saxe <Councillor_Saxe@toronto.ca>; Councillor Shan <Councillor_Shan@toronto.ca>; Councillor Thompson <councillor_thompson@toronto.ca>

Subject: [External Sender] Re: Item MPB38.1 – 2026 Operating and Capital Budget (City-wide)

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of City Council,

I am writing on behalf of **Sumac Community Food Centre, an Initiative of Right to Food** to express our strong support for the **restoration and stabilization of \$500,000 in annual project funding** for the **Regent Park Social Development Plan (RPSDP)** in the City of Toronto's 2026 Operating and Capital Budget.

Our organization understands the immense importance of the Social Development Plan as a **coordinated, resident-led framework** that translates City priorities into tangible, community-level outcomes. In a neighbourhood undergoing significant redevelopment and growing social pressure, the SDP has provided a trusted structure for collaboration, accountability, and alignment across sectors.

The Regent Park Social Development Plan (RPSDP) has been instrumental in fostering positive outcomes in the community, including enhancing opportunities for resident leadership, youth engagement, and broad community participation. The RPSDP has also made significant strides in bolstering community safety, improving service coordination, and strengthening social cohesion. These successes can be attributable to the clear governance structure and resident leadership of the RPSDP rooted in the lived experiences of community members.

From our perspective, the Regent Park Social Development Plan functions as **essential social infrastructure**. Stable project and programming funding enables prevention-oriented work, reduces duplication across agencies, strengthens resident governance, and supports long-term planning that is far more effective—and cost-efficient—than reactive, crisis-driven responses. The gains achieved in Regent Park in recent years reflect the impact of **sustained, coordinated investment**, not short-term or fragmented interventions.

We are therefore concerned that the absence of renewed SDP project funding in the proposed 2026 Budget places these hard-won outcomes at risk. At a time when communities across Toronto are experiencing heightened pressures—including housing instability, rising service demand, and increasing strain on emergency and crisis systems—disinvesting from a proven, prevention-focused framework is counterproductive and fiscally short-sighted.

For these reasons, Sumac Community Food Centre strongly urges City Council to:

1. **Restore and stabilize \$500,000 in annual project funding** for the Regent Park Social Development Plan in the 2026 Budget; and
2. **Reaffirm Council's commitment to community-led social development** as a core pillar of public safety, community wellbeing, and equitable city-building.

Continued investment in the Regent Park Social Development Plan is not only an investment in one neighbourhood—it is an investment in a resident-driven, prevention-focused model of social infrastructure that Toronto can continue to learn from and scale city-wide.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to provide further information or speak to our experience working within the SDP framework.

Sincerely,

Sumac Community Food Centre
info@sumaccfc.ca | 647-576-7042

cc: Members of Toronto City Council; Budget Committee; City Manager; Social Development, Finance & Administration Division

To:

mayor_chow@toronto.ca

Cc:

councilmeeting@toronto.ca; paul.r.johnson@toronto.ca; Mohamed.Shuriye@toronto.ca; sdp.regentpark@gmail.com; Councillor_Moise@toronto.ca; councillor_carroll@toronto.ca; councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca; councillor_bradford@toronto.ca; Councillor_Bravo@toronto.ca; Councillor_Burnside@toronto.ca; Councillor_Cheng@toronto.ca; Councillor_ChernosLin@toronto.ca; councillor_colle8@toronto.ca; Councillor_Crisanti@toronto.ca; councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca; councillor_holyday@toronto.ca; Councillor_Kandavel@toronto.ca; Councillor_Malik@toronto.ca; Councillor_Mantas@toronto.ca; councillor_matlow@toronto.ca; Councillor_Morley@toronto.ca; Councillor_Myers@toronto.ca; councillor_nunziata@toronto.ca; councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca; councillor_perks@toronto.ca; councillor_perruzza@toronto.ca; Councillor_Saxe@toronto.ca; Councillor_Shan@toronto.ca; councillor_thompson@toronto.ca

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