

City Council

Motion Without Notice

MM37.37	ACTION			Ward: 10
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60 Brant Street - Expediting Streetscape Improvements Adjacent to City-owned Property Leased for Youth Transitional Housing - by Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** 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 Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, to work with Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth to finalize and issue permits for streetscape improvements adjacent to 60 Brant Street, or for the City of Toronto to deliver the improvements directly where appropriate, and to consult with the local Ward Councillor on funding sources for this work.

Summary

Over the past seven years, the block containing St. Andrew's Playground and the former City Waterworks building has undergone a complete transformation.

The full revitalization of St. Andrew's Playground will be complete in the coming weeks, including an expansion of the public parkland onto a former surface parking lot next door.

The CreateTO-led (formerly Build Toronto) City-building project at the Waterworks is also in the final stages of work involving:

- heritage retention;
- new affordable artists' housing mixed with market housing;
- a new YMCA recreation centre; and
- a food hall open to the park and street.

Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth has opened Eva's Phoenix, new transitional housing for 50 for homeless and at-risk youth aged 16-24, located in the renovated east end of the heritage Waterworks building in space leased from the City of Toronto (60 Brant Street).

One remaining outstanding piece of the puzzle is to complete streetscape improvements beside the east and north frontages of City-owned 60 Brant Street. It is important to expedite this work because the area is currently muddy and inaccessible for any practical use, but it has the potential to further expand the public open space in this rapidly-growing neighbourhood where most people live in small apartments and condos. In addition, the residents at Eva's Phoenix deserve an attractive and useful front lawn.

This Motion is urgent because Eva's Phoenix has now been occupied for a number of years, and the adjacent work on the Waterworks and in St. Andrew's Playground is nearly complete. Council direction to expedite this work is necessary in order for permits to be issued and work to begin without additional delay.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion 37.37