

Wednesday, April 29, 2010

From: Howard Moscoe
To: Chair and Members of the Licensing and Standards Committee
Re: Fairness Protocol for Removal of Street Vendors

The Committee has asked me to broker a process that will work with the local councilors, the vendors and the BIAs to broker an understanding on this matter. Despite two attempts to convene meetings I have been unable to bring all parties together. It is not simply a matter of logistics. Most parties have approached this matter with a genuine desire to discuss and resolve the issues. I have come to the conclusion that the best way to resolve the matter is to establish a process that will encourage all parties to come together locally to find common ground.

I am writing to seek the committee's advice. I propose the following:

1. Staff work with staff of Economic Development to identify those BIA areas that have more than three street vendors with permits to occupy public property.
2. That my original memo July 10, 2008 (attached with clauses 6 and 7 deleted) be referred to each of those BIAs and they be requested to meet with the Vendors' Association and under the auspices of the local councillor attempt to work out a fairness protocol within their BIA areas. They would then make joint recommendations back to the Licensing and Standards Committee that apply to their own BIA areas.
3. The ground rules would require that they:
 - a) Work within the existing vending bylaw.
 - b) Attempt to work out a dispute resolutions mechanics that works for them locally.

- c) That mechanism include a way of dealing with complaints against vendors.
 - d) BIAs be encouraged to explore ways of extending associate membership to vendors who have locations within their BIA areas.
4. Once Three BIAs have reported out the general issue be brought back to the committee to attempt to incorporate, in consultation with TABIA, the results of these discussion into a general fairness protocol that could be applied across the city. It would include those areas that are not organized into BIAs.

Thank you, for your consideration of this Matter.

Howard Moscoe
Chair,
Licensing and Standards for the City of Toronto