

From: [Caroline Hamlet](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Cc: "[Margaret Cheung](#)"; "[Richard Holder](#)"
Subject: Re: PH27.2 - Zoning Conformity for Official Plan Employment Areas - Phase 1 Final Report and Phase 2 Update
Date: November 3, 2021 12:02:49 PM
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[image009.png](#)



700 Lawrence Ave W., Ste. 495
Toronto, ON
M6A 3B4

t: 416.925.4386
f: 416.925.9112
Web: JHST.ca

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Toronto City Council
12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Attn: Marilyn Toft, Council Secretariat

Delivered by email to: councilmeeting@toronto.ca

Re: PH27.2 – Zoning Conformity for Official Plan Employment Areas – Phase 1 Final Report and Phase 2 Update

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council,

On behalf of **John Howard Society of Toronto**, I wish to express our concern and alarm with respect to the report on Zoning By-Law conformity for employment zones in the Official Plan, specifically the proposed removal of permissions for bingo halls and related uses in the Former City of Etobicoke Zoning By-law (Attachment 9 to the Final Report).

Our charity is one of 66 local charities that rely on Delta Bingo and Gaming St. Clair, to support our organization in the Toronto community. Without that support we will simply not be able to function.

John Howard Society of Toronto

The last 18 months have been very challenging for everyone, and our organization is no exception. We have struggled to survive with very little funding as Delta St. Clair was closed for 420 days over the course of the pandemic. Now, due to a proposed expropriation from the City of Toronto and Metrolinx, the Delta St. Clair location will have to move to another site. The new site (at 360 Evans Ave.) is currently zoned to allow for a Bingo Hall. Under the proposed By-law amendment that permission would be revoked.

As you can appreciate, finding an appropriate venue at a reasonable price in the current real estate environment is a real challenge. We are looking forward to the move to 360 Evans Ave. and urge you not to remove this permission and allow us to re-locate as planned with the current permissions. The

Bingo funding has help JHST over the past years paid for staff salaries, computers, IPad, tokens etc. We rely on this funding so not allowing the Bingo to relocate will be a big blow to our clients who rely heavily on the support of these funds provide.

Based on the concerns identified above, we respectfully request that the Draft By-laws and report, specifically as it applies to the use of employment lands for bingo halls, is removed entirely or in the very least referred back to City Planning staff for dedicated public consultation and review. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and we look forward to further discussions on this matter.

Sincerely,
Caroline Hamlet
Director of Administration
John Howard Society of Toronto
700 Lawrence Ave W., Ste#495
Toronto, Ontario M6A 3B4

Caroline Hamlet
Director of Administration

**John Howard Society
of Toronto**
700 Lawrence Ave W, Unit 495
Toronto, Ontario M6A 3B4
t: 416-781-4065
f: 416-784-1320
w: www.jhst.ca
Pronouns: she/her



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