

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 **Toronto Olympic Track and Field Club**, 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 run the program for junior athletes as we have done with Bingo support for decades.

We use the money to pay a small stipend to those who coach the junior athletes, assist junior athletes to attend championship events from coast to coast and purchase training aids for the young athletes. Without this support the activity that we foster would become affordable only by the wealthier members of society.

The last 18 months have been very challenging for everyone, and our organization is no exception. Without competitions our membership has halved. We earn some funds by helping out at the Canada Running Series but there have been no races so no financial help from there. Our membership fees are as low as possible so as not to be a bar to membership. Some of our financially poorer members do not pay at all. 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.

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.

Yours faithfully,

Robert Moore.

Board member, deputy treasurer, newsletter editor.

Toronto Olympic Club,

519 Sutherland Drive,

Toronto M4G 1K9.