From: <u>Suzanne Teixeira</u>

To: Mayor Tory; Councillor Nunziata; councilmeeting

Cc: <u>Delta Bingo</u>; <u>Suzanne Teixeira</u>

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

Date: November 5, 2021 10:03:01 AM

Friday November 5, 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 **York West Active Living Centre**, 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.

York West Active Living Centre provides health and wellness, social opportunities, educational classes and transportation to older adults 55 plus. The Centre provides a safe, welcoming environment for our seniors. The funds received go directly to program support which allows our seniors to stay active, healthy, socially engaged and age independently. We aid in reducing social isolation among older adults which, in our given environment is more critical then ever. Losing these funds will have a HUGE negative impact on the lives of our seniors.

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. 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,

Suzanne Teixeira

Suzanne Teixeira Executive Director York West Active Living Centre 1901 Weston Rd, Toronto, M9N 3P5 416.245.495 x224