

**From:** [Frank Naccarato](#)  
**To:** [councilmeeting](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** My comments for 2021.IE26.12 on December 15, 2021 City Council  
**Date:** December 11, 2021 1:29:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[Robots Improve Accessibility - Don't Ban Them.pdf](#)

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the December 15, 2021 City Council meeting on item 2021.IE26.12, Automated Micro-Utility Devices - Accessibility Feedback

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

## **Robots Improve Accessibility. Regulate Them, Don't Ban Them.**



We're a Toronto robotics startup. Our robots help people **overcome accessibility barriers** related to **stairs**. However, the widely panned **IEC/TAAC ban (IE26.12)** will make our robots, and other **assistive devices** like them, **illegal**.

There was **no** consultation, data analysis or due diligence behind this recommendation. TAAC relied almost entirely on one lobbyist's say-so. It's an overreaction that's unimaginative, short-sighted and rushed.

**Robots can lift, carry, climb, clean and see for people who can't.** This ban will **deprive people with disabilities** of devices that are already proven to **improve accessibility** and **remove barriers**.

A ban also tells tech companies and investors that **Toronto is against innovation**.

The ban is already very **unpopular**. A **Change.Org** petition got nearly 2,000 signatures in under a week.

Instead of banning robots, allow companies like mine to work with the city to **develop informed policies** to make sure they remain safe.

**Please vote NO on the IEC/TAAC robot ban.**



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