

December 5, 2013

To: Chair and Members, Licensing and Standards Committee

Re: Temporary Front Lawn Sign Policy

Dear Chair and Members,

This past fall, several residents of Ward 13 were asked to remove signs from their front lawns supporting the campaign for clean trains on the Georgetown GO Transit Line extension currently under construction and running through the Parkdale-High Park area. They had put up the signs simply to promote awareness in a cause they believe in. Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS) staff was contacted with a complaint about the signs, which is what prompted the removal and my involvement.

We contacted MLS staff to get an explanation as to the by law. MLS also contacted City legal who informed us that in order for these signs to be allowable, a revision to the bylaw is required.

Therefore, on behalf of my residents, I would like to move the following:

1. That Licensing & Standards Committee request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards to review the issue of the display of temporary signs on private property for purposes of displaying non-commercial messages, and report back to the Licensing Standards Committee on March 18, 2014 proposing amendments to City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 693, Signs, to provide specific regulations with respect to temporary signs displayed on private property for the purpose of non-commercial messages, the report to include a review of proposed regulations including the requirements for permits, permit fees, time limits on display, size and spacing requirements, as well as any other regulations that may be necessary to address potential safety risks.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and your support.

Sincerely,

Sarah Doucette