TORONTO Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM55.27	ACTION			Ward:11

Review of Liquor Licence - Weston Station, 1935 Weston Road - by Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Frank Di Giorgio

**** Notice of this Motion has been given.***
**** This Motion is subject to referral to the Toronto and East York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.***
**** This Motion relates to an Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario Hearing and has been deemed urgent.***

Recommendations

Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Frank Di Giorgio, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Solicitor to request the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario ("AGCO") to issue a Notice of Proposal to suspend or revoke the liquor licence for 1935 Weston Road – Weston Station (the "Premises") on the grounds that the past and present conduct of the Licensee affords reasonable grounds that the business will not be operating in accordance with the law and the operation of the business is not in the public interest.

2. City Council request the AGCO and the Licence Appeal Tribunal ("LAT") to provide the City with an opportunity to participate in any proceedings with respect to a Notice of Proposal to suspend or revoke the licence for the Premises.

3. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to attend all proceedings before the AGCO or the LAT in this matter and direct the City Solicitor to take all necessary actions to give effect to this Motion.

Summary

For nearly five years now, Weston Station (the "Premises") at 1935 Weston Road has been the source of complaints by both residents and businesses in the community of Weston who feel that this establishment is a threat to community safety. I have received numerous complaints from residents about the conduct of patrons who frequent this "restaurant" as well as numerous allegations of criminal behavior including, but not limited to drug activity.

Weston Station has two entrances to the establishment – one from Weston Road and one from John Street. In the late evening and early hours of the morning, area residents report that patrons of this establishment stand outside the John Street entrance with beer bottles in hand.

Evidence of this can be found in the morning as empty beer bottles are left on the ground.

I, on behalf of the community, have made several requests of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) to revoke the liquor licence that was issued for this establishment; the local Business Improvement Area has also written to the AGCO with their concerns but as of yet, Weston Station continues to operate and sell alcohol.

The Toronto Police Service – 12 Division has confirmed that this establishment is a crime "hot spot" for the Weston Road and Lawrence Avenue West area and this was evidenced in the spring of this year when a stabbing occurred at Weston Station and more recently, on August 10, 2014, when a patron had his throat slashed with a knife, sustaining life-threatening injuries.

Since obtaining a liquor licence, Weston Station has been a constant source of problems for the Weston area; the community deserves better.

(Submitted to City Council on August 25 and 26, 2014 as MM55.27)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM55.27