



# Councillor



Jaye  
**ROBINSON**  
WARD 25 • DON VALLEY WEST

May 5, 2014

Parks and Environment Committee  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

***Re: Taking Action on Dust Suppression***

Dear Chair and Colleagues,

Residential construction can be disruptive, particularly for immediate neighbours.

Dust – from stone, rock, concrete and tile cutting, among other things – is a major source of that disruption. Dust also has an environmental and health impact, all the more so for vulnerable residents, including children, seniors and those with asthma.

Unfortunately, the rules and regulations related to dust suppression are jurisdictionally complicated. The city's role and the extent of its authority are unclear. In my experience, the result is frustration as residents are bounced between municipal and provincial offices in search of action.

The recommendation below requests a report on this issue, including the extent of the city's authority as well as concrete recommendations to improve dust suppression going forward.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Warm regards,

**Jaye Robinson**  
City Councillor  
Ward 25 – Don Valley West

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. The Parks and Environment Committee request the Director, Environment and Energy Office, in consultation with the Ministry of the Environment, Municipal Licensing and Standards, Toronto Public Health and other city staff, as appropriate, to report in the first quarter of 2015 on:
  - a. The extent of the city's authority to regulate dust suppression related to residential construction;
  - b. The health impacts of dust related to residential construction; and,
  - c. Recommendations to improve dust suppression related to residential construction, including possible amendments to the Municipal Code.