City Council

Notice of Motion

MM5.4 ACTION

New Liquor Licence Application - 466 Dovercourt Road - Matador Ballroom - Licence No. 817199 - by Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

* 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 Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Clerk to advise the Registrar of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario ("AGCO") that the issuance of a liquor licence for Matador Ballroom, 466 Dovercourt Road (the "Premises"), is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents, and that the Registrar should issue a Proposal to Review the liquor licence application.

2. City Council request the AGCO and the Licence Appeal Tribunal ("LAT") to provide the City of Toronto with an opportunity to be made a party in any proceedings with respect to the Premises.

3. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to attend all proceedings before the LAT in this matter and direct the City Solicitor to take all necessary actions so as to give effect to this Motion, including adding and deleting conditions to any liquor licence issued for the Premises, in consultation with the Ward Councillor.

Summary
An application for a new liquor licence by The Matador Corporation has been made to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario ("AGCO") for an establishment to be known as the Matador Ballroom at 466 Dovercourt Road (the "Premises"). The application is for a proposed indoor capacity of 804 patrons. The Premises has historically operated as an assembly hall, dance hall and a country/rock after-hours club that closed in 2006. It is proposed that the Premises will continue the historical use to operate as an entertainment facility, concert hall and event facility.
The Premises is located immediately adjacent to a residential area, and in particular it directly abuts a lot that contains a semi-detached dwelling. Neighbouring residents and the local Councillor’s office are concerned that the operation of a licenced entertainment facility, including, but not limited to a concert hall and special event facility with a capacity of 804 patrons will negatively impact neighbouring residents. Under the current in-force Zoning By-law and the new City harmonized Zoning By-law (under appeal) an Entertainment Facility/Nightclub is not a permitted use on the site. However, the use may be permitted as being legal non-conforming because of the historical use. Potential impacts relate to noise, safety, crowd control, litter, and other matters.

The issuance of a liquor licence for the Premises is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the municipality in which the premises are located. At a minimum this application for a liquor licence is not in the public interest unless certain conditions, addressing the concerns of the community, are attached to the licence.

Urgent consideration is being requested as the AGCO deadline for objections to this application was March 15, 2015.