



Councillor Josh Matlow

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Planning and Growth Management Committee
100 Queen St W
Toronto M5H 2N2

Dear Chair and Members,

Item PG 5.5 - Improving Response to Infill Construction Sites: Work Plan

Across many of our neighbourhoods, we have had to fight a dramatic increase in inappropriate infill development projects that threaten the fabric and stability of our residential communities. While these battles have played out through the Committee of Adjustment and the Ontario Municipal Board, where they often receive approval and residents are then forced to start the next fight – the construction process. When these new homes are built, it is incredibly disruptive to local residents, as they are being built right in the heart of residential neighbourhoods and the impacts are literally in people's front yards.

Often, contractors will work beyond permitted noise bylaw hours, they take over on-street parking, and block the public right of way. Of particular concern is the excessive noise and dust from stone and rock cutting performed on site, which is disruptive and hazardous for immediate neighbours. On some streets there are several of these projects occurring simultaneously, and once one job is completed another begins.

City Council gave direction to staff last term, by way of the June 19, 2014 Planning and Growth Management Committee item on "Residential Infill Construction Sites – Improving our Response" and the May 20, 2014 Parks and Environment Committee item on "Taking Action on Dust Suppression," to report back on a strategy to address this concern.

The report before you today for item PG 5.5 outlines a work plan for staff to report back to this committee by December 2015. I am frustrated it is taking so long for a work plan to be developed but I look forward to seeing meaningful recommendations from City staff that will help protect neighbourhoods from delinquent contractors and from the excessive dust and noise created by these infill development projects.

Sincerely,

Josh Matlow
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