To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 31, 2016 City Council meeting on item 2016.ED10.7, Toronto Music Strategy: An Action Plan

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Here, for the public record, is a copy of an e-mail sent to Mayor Tory and a number of City Councillors:

Subject: Please defer the Toronto Music Strategy
From: Lynn Robinson <island.lynn@rogers.com>
Date: March 29, 2016 8:51:18 PM EDT
To: John Tory <INFO@JOHNTORY.CA>, Councillor McConnell <councillor_mcconnell@toronto.ca>, Councillor Joe Cressy <councillor_cressy@toronto.ca>, Mike Layton <councillor_layton@toronto.ca>, Councillor Gord Perks <councillor_perks@toronto.ca>, Josh Matlow <councillor_matlow@toronto.ca>, Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam <councillor_wongtam@toronto.ca>, Paula Fletcher <councillor_Fletcher@toronto.ca>, councillor_Mihevc@toronto.ca, Janet Davis <councillor_davis@toronto.ca>, Councillor McMahon <councillor_mcmahon@toronto.ca>, Shelley Carroll <councillor_carroll@toronto.ca>, councillor_doucette@toronto.ca

Dear Mayor Tory and City Councillors,

We urge that City Council defer the Toronto Music Strategy item on this week’s Council agenda, to allow for public consultation.

While the Strategy contains thoughtful material, it is material that will strengthen the music industry. The needs of the general public are not so well addressed and the Strategy requires more attention regarding

- noise regulation
- zoning, building and planning policies, and
- the increased use of the parks for musical events

This document, if accepted, will define public policy. Our ordinances and planning policies are of concern to every Toronto resident, and privileging one industry as a matter of public policy without first consulting the public is a troubling way to proceed.

We ought not to pursue economic development at the expense of residents. A truly healthy city would protect the health and well being of its residents and public spaces as it seeks ways to support development. The pilot for Commercial events in the parks has caused distress along the waterfront, and the proposed changes to the noise bylaw are unacceptable from a health standpoint.

The Music Strategy represents the goals of the music industry, but civic policy must represent the needs of the public as well. To that end, the public needs input to this process of developing Toronto as a Music City. It is long past time to do that.

We strongly urge you to have the Music Strategy sent back for thorough public consultation.

best regards