

Dear Mayor Tory and City Councillors,

The ABC Residents Association request that City Council defer the Toronto Music Strategy item on this week's Council agenda for genuine consultation with Toronto residents.

The Toronto Music Strategy is a thoughtful presentation of ideas from the Music and Entertainment industry but for it to be successful it must also have the support of the broader community - both residents and businesses. Of the purported consultation that did take place the vast majority (84%) of respondents identified as employed by the music industry or active in the music scene.

We agree that a strategy to enrich the music and cultural experience in Toronto is a positive initiative which can bring pleasure and economic development to our city. However, there are aspects of the strategy that require discussion and input from other sectors. For example the consequences arising from:

- the loosening of noise regulations
- changes to zoning, building and planning policies, and
- changes to Parks and Sign bylaws to encourage the use of city parks for commercial use with amplified sound.

The Music Strategy represents the goals of the music industry but if this strategy is good for Toronto and not just one sector it will be able to undergo public scrutiny. We therefore urge you not to approve the Music Strategy before it is sent back for genuine and informed public consultation.

Thank you.

Ian Carmichael and John Caliendo
Co Presidents, ABC RA representing Yorkville and North Midtown Residents.