

From: [Ulla Colgrass](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Letter re. Council Item ED 10.7 (Toronto Music Strategy)
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 10:27:48 AM

Dear City Clerk,

Please distribute to all City Councillors and post for the record from YQNA.

Thanks,
Ulla Colgrass

Dear City Councillors,

We urge that City Council defer the Toronto Music Strategy item on this weeks Council agenda. It was formulated by the music industry with the help of some City Councillors and staff members of Parks and Recreation to loosen restrictions on amplified commercial outdoor concerts. In addition, changes were recently proposed to loosen the City's noise bylaws, but that met with stiff opposition from residents throughout Toronto. York Quay Neighbourhood Association (YQNA) on the Waterfront and residents groups across the City were not informed about this fast track to Council, nor did we receive any details of the proposal.

Main concerns:

- The public was not consulted. City report states it was, but at a meeting in 2015 on this subject, 84% of respondents identified themselves as employed or active in the music industry.
- Outdoor concerts can play amplified music up to 85 decibels (dBA, not dBC) all day until 11 p.m. MLS will not and never has been able to control outdoor concert volumes or conditions.
- MLS's proposal to water down the noise bylaw got large, vociferous opposition at the staff's public meeting on February 17, 2016. The item was deferred and the old noise bylaw still stands.
- A pilot project in 10 parks on the Waterfront took place last year. What were the results? Was the public informed? We never heard about it.

Noise from many sources create problems throughout Toronto, so it's not a local issue. Music should be for people's pleasure at their own choice — not forced into homes, disturbing private lives.

If this issue is not deferred and goes through a proper consultation process, it could lead to serious problems. Residents from other parts of Toronto called the Waterfront "the canary in the coal mine" regarding noise, because we have a dozen outdoor performance spaces and hundreds of concerts every year. We don't need the proposed "free-for-all", which would affect thousands of residents in Toronto's densely populated condo towers.

Greetings,

Ulla Colgrass

**York Quay Neighbourhood Association
Planning Committee**
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