

Licensing and Standards Committee

From: andrea vechter <vechterandrea@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Licensing and Standards Committee; Councillor Palacio; Councillor Di Giorgio; Councillor Matlow; Councillor Mammoliti; Councillor DeBaeremaeker; Councillor McConnell; Councillor Karygiannis
Cc: Mayor Tory; Medical Officer of Health
Subject: My comments for 2016.LS11.2 on May 19, 2016 Licensing and Standards Committee

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the May 19, 2016 Licensing and Standards Committee meeting on item 2016.LS11.2, Chapter 591, Noise - Amendments After Further Consultation

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.

Comments:

Dear Councillor Palacio, Councillor McConnell, and members of the Licensing and Standards Committee:

While there have been modifications to control noise disturbances in the proposed bylaw, we believe there are still be issues of serious concern to the health and welfare of the general public with regard to living with the impact of unwanted sound.

Some of our concerns with the current proposals include:

- inadequate protection from general noise during daytime hours
- the decision to approve exemptions from noise prohibitions, in series, with no limit set for the number of exemptions issued for construction projects and/or entertainment/music events in City parks
- inconsistencies in the application process for exemptions from a noise prohibition: i.e., City Officers and Agencies would appear to be free of undertaking to provide on-site supervision of events
- lack of definition and clarity with regard to the purpose, requirements and submission process of the noise mitigation plan: i.e., in the document it is unclear if this plan is submitted as part of the process of exemption from a noise prohibition or as an additional requirement after the permit has been granted. It is also states that the noise mitigation plan may be required, at the discretion of the Executive Director of ML&S, rather than as a consistently-applied mandatory part of a noise exemption permit application process
- the City's limited capacity to enforce the bylaw in an efficient and timely manner, especially after-hours

In light of these concerns, it would seem reasonable to suggest the report be turned back to clarify the issues noted above, in term of their elements and processes, with special attention to providing a reasonable expectation and standard of enforcement. We would also ask that in order to ensure the health and well-being of the residents of Toronto, the Medical Officer for the City of Toronto be consulted in making further revisions.

Yours truly,

Andrea Vechter
Front Street Residents Working Group