



To: ML & S - 311@toronto.ca
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cc: Councillor_Cressy@toronto.ca (or your Councillor)
bgillia2@toronto.ca (Brent Gilliard – Constituency Assistant)
Mayor_Tory@toronto.ca (Mayor John Tory's office)

Re: 2016 Proposed Changes to the Noise Bylaw

I am the General Manager of the Templar Hotel and a resident in the Entertainment district in Toronto. I am concerned that ML&S will make a grave mistake in changing the bylaws that will make our city louder for residents and businesses and make it difficult to monitor and enforce noise issues. We should be learning from sprawling and fast growing cities that have dealt with these issues before. Noise in major cities like Toronto is an issue and it should be dealt with before it becomes a consistent problem for residents and businesses.

Limiting average outdoor noise levels to below 55 dBA (daytime) is imperative for health. Keeping the levels of noise below the provincial Environmental Noise Guideline (NPC-300) is desirable as sleep disturbance has been shown to occur at levels as low as 32 dBA.

We have been made aware that New York City has a good model in place and policies, standards as well as enforcement that are worthy of Toronto adopting for different noise situations – amplified sound, vibrations, motorcycles, construction, leaf blowers, and mechanical equipment to list a few.

We strongly recommend that our Council and the Noise Bylaw and Enforcement Department seriously consider **removing any changes that increase our exposure to sounds**. We must have proper mitigation of noise of both industrial and equipment that affect our businesses and residents in a negative way. Our enforcement tools must be strong and have “teeth” in the penalties.

Sincerely,

John Paterson

Partner and General Manager of the Templar Hotel

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