

**Ward 10**

City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
2nd Floor, Suite A22
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-1371
Fax: 416-392-7299
councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca

September 19, 2017

Ulli Watkiss
City Clerk
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Administrative Inquiry regarding Hate-Sponsored Rallies such Al Quds Day

Dear Ms. Watkiss,

I am submitting this Administrative Inquiry under Municipal Code S27-61 to seek clarification of any potential options available to the City of Toronto to prevent hate-sponsored rallies from taking place on city or provincial property in Toronto.

There has been a growing trend of hate-infested rallies being held in public spaces such as the anti-Semitic Al Quds Day rally in Toronto and there have been threats to host white supremacist and neo-Nazi rallies in Toronto similar to those in the United States.

For the past several years there has been an Al Quds Day rally held in Toronto outside Queen's Park featuring speakers making anti-Semitic and anti-Christian remarks, spreading hatred, inciting violence and supporting of terrorist organizations such as Hamas. Al Quds Day was originally created to call for the destruction of the state of Israel. The rally in 2017 did not receive a permit to hold the event at Queen's Park or from the City of Toronto, however the event proceeded.

I am asking that the following information be provided:

1. Do the Toronto Police Service or City of Toronto have ability and what resources could they utilize to prohibit a rally that is inciting hatred and violence, such as Al Quds Day, white supremacist or neo-Nazi rallies, from taking place on city or provincial property in Toronto?

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

Councillor James Pasternak
Ward 10, York Centre
Chair, Community Development and Recreation Committee