



(SLNA) 230 The Esplanade Toronto ON M5E 1T4

[slna@slna.ca](mailto:slna@slna.ca) [www.slna.ca](http://www.slna.ca)

April 30, 2018

Members of the Planning and Growth Committee  
c/o Nancy Martins  
10th Floor, West Tower  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen St. West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: Item PG 29.4

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA) represents the interests of almost 40,00 residents in the Downtown Toronto Core. This is fast growing area of the city providing homes for an increasing number of families and individuals that contribute to the vitality of this city and the downtown core of more than 240,000 residents. The SLNA has serious concerns about certain policies contained in the proposed Downtown Secondary Plan that will negatively impact residents living in downtown Toronto. We are specifically referring to policies in the proposed plan that will proactively promote live music without controls. City Councillors are asked to make changes to the Downtown Secondary Plan to ensure that residents living in the downtown core are protected from unreasonable noise coming from live music performances.

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association supports the following recommendations put forward by the Toronto Noise Coalition:

1. That the Plan include stronger policies to ensure liveability for all. The Plan is a land use document but liveability in the Downtown requires more than standard land use policies. It needs a strong and effective noise bylaw regime as well as other policies to protect the health of citizens. Divisions cannot act in silos.

Continued...

2. That a broader set of initiatives be developed that deal with the different types of disruptive live music venues and that put the onus on the venue to comply. Some venues of course are not a problem. Other cities have solutions, such as financial assistance. We are pleased to see the policy recommending new venues provide noise protection.
3. That new policies be added that address concerns about the negative impacts of noisy live music venues on those living, working and visiting nearby. Excessive noise from outdoor music and especially amplified music should not be permitted except maybe in special situations in parks, other public areas including sidewalks, and private open space. The policy must reflect the need for mitigation of unreasonable noise and require consultation with the local community affected by an event. Appropriate solutions can be found.

As the elected representatives of the residents of this city, we sincerely hope our Councillors will examine and act upon these recommendations. Toronto's economic and cultural success depends upon its ability to maintain a downtown environment that is not only commercially viable but also livable.

Sincerely,



Sharon McMillan  
President  
St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association