



(SLNA) 230 The Esplanade Toronto ON M5E 1T4 slna@slna.ca www.slna.ca

April 3, 2019

Economic and Community
Development Committee
10th Floor West Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Attention: Carol Kaustinen

ecdc@toronto.ca

Re: EC3.6 Noise By-law Review - Proposed Amendments to Chapter 591, Noise

Dear Committee Members:

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA), founded in 1982, represents approximately 35,000 residents in the area bounded by Yonge Street, Parliament Street, Queen Street East and the railway tracks. We regularly work with City staff, residents, developers and property owners to ensure that proposed developments represent good planning and enhance our neighbourhood. We have been members of the Toronto Noise Coalition since 2016.

The SLNA would like to see the City providing leadership in developing a well enforced noise by-law that is part of the City's Noise Management Action Plan. We need to protect Torontonians from excessive noise, we need to make better use of new technologies and be supported by strong and effective enforcement and supported with education programs. We support Federation of North Toronto Residents' Association (FONTRA) and Toronto Noise Coalition (TNC) in that there was insufficient time to review the Noise By-Law Report given the complexity of the issues and the number of proposed changes to the current by-law and the lack of clear rationales for the changes noted.

More time is needed for groups such as TNC to meet with City staff to understand the rationale for these proposed changes. It appears that Municipal Licencing and

Standards (ML&S) is going through the motions with community consultations and making recommendations on what is easiest rather than listen to the community groups. We support that the proposed report be referred to staff for further consultation. We want to see amplified sound primarily controlled at the source through monitoring at source. Protection from excessive construction noise, through noise mitigation plans for exemptions. There should also be new steps taken to reduce unnecessary excessive noise during permitted work hours, such as through the use of standardized noise mitigation plans and advice on quieter machines and ways of working. The current construction management plans may represent a model.

Protection from disturbances from noisy motorcycles as proposed, by reducing the maximum dB to 82, as well as adding other noisy performance vehicles to the By-law. We support the proposal to substantially increase penalties for non-compliance. But we are concerned that the by-law enforcement program is insufficient, especially given the withdrawal of the Toronto Police Service involvement.

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association also shares similar concerns with York Quay Neighbourhood Association. Although we are not directly on the waterfront we face many of the same challenges and noise attenuation along the waterfront travels north. In fact, we had our Past President, Suzanne Kavanagh, serve as a witness for the hearing involving the Rebel Night Club concerning noise.

Also, the SLNA is under more pressure with the ongoing construction of Union Station East Corridor expansion and the frustration that these projects are exempt.

We look forward to further reporting on the scope and content of the bylaw enforcement program. We also look forward to reviewing how the new Noise By-law strengthens the Public Health's report on the Noise Management Action Plan. We look forward to being part of finalizing the Noise By-law to meet the needs of all Torontonians, residents and as well as noise making businesses.

Sincerely,

Sharon McMillan
President, SLNA

cc. Councillor Wong-Tam
Councillor Joe Cressy