

Night Economy Update

Basics

- Background
 - Night Economy Action Plan – adopted summer 2019
 - Appointment of Deputy Mayor Thompson as Night Economy Ambassador
 - Night economy [web site](#) and general objectives:
 1. Plan the Night – Coordinate a strategic approach with municipal services, planning and policies to enhance 24-hour activity.
 2. Protect the Night – Provide support to Toronto's nightlife to promote a safe, respectful, inclusive and positive environment for all residents, workers and visitors.
 3. Create the Night – Build a foundation that encourages a vibrant nightlife by supporting talented artists and entrepreneurs, creating jobs and spurring economic growth for Toronto.
- Internal working group
 - EDC, Planning, MLS, Transportation, Fire, Police, Buildings, BIA Office, Toronto Public Health, Mayor's Office
- External working group
 - Artists, LMVs, nightclubs, DIY events, arts & culture, sexual assault / harm reduction, Destination Toronto, ORHMA, BIAs, nighttime trades, youth

Public consultations – to determine priorities

Pre-COVID plan

- 3 “listening sessions” early 2020
- 1 Town Hall (CMW – May)
- All conducted via external consultant

Current plan

- Virtual consultations beginning early 2021
 - Acknowledgement of COVID impacts / recovery plans

Current priorities

- Recovery
 - ShowLoveTO (CafeTO, StrollTO, LocalTO, other programs)
 - Winter patios
- Review and update standard City processes / operations as needed
 - Deal quickly and flexibly with new challenges & opportunities (eg approval of CafeTO activations)
- Balance regulation with encouraging recovery & vibrancy
 - TPH: challenges in sustaining / reopening business sector with protecting public health
 - MLS: increased noise complaints

Current priorities: DIY spaces

- Pre-COVID objective: City-owned spaces for interim DIY org tenancy
- Currently:
 - Exploring appeal of specific facilities to DIY community (& idea of City support in these cases)
 - Night Economy IWG discussing pre-approval of specific spaces for DIY events
 - Input needed on desired areas of Toronto / specific spaces

Future work: review of bars, restaurants, nightclubs

MLS / Planning currently exploring next steps in joint review of licensing and zoning bylaws regulating bars, restaurants, nightclubs, music venues, and other related business types

- Pre-COVID: review planned for 2020
 - modernize regulations to better reflect how businesses operate today
 - provide consistency and improve clarity for businesses, residents, and enforcement
- staff now re-examining this work to determine best approach and timing for resuming this review
- when work is resumed, staff will engage with residents, industry stakeholders, and partners across relevant City divisions to understand the issues and explore potential future recommendations

Future work: Arts Event Permit

Internal Working Group (EDC, Planning, MLS, Fire, Buildings, Police)

- Online system – event organizers apply & provide info about space, event
 - Template – film permitting system
- Goals
 - streamlined approval process / improved timelines for event organizers
 - consistent evaluation of proposals and enforcement of events
 - coordinated source of information for City staff, councillors, police, fire
- Resources & time needed to plan and create
- Related to work by EDC / Planning to identify opportunities in “emerging entertainment areas”

TMAC involvement?

- Create TMAC team to add music-industry perspectives, suggestions to Night Economy work.
- Update Music Strategy to reflect current circumstances and priorities and reference ongoing Night Economy work.

Questions / comments?