

## City Council

### Notice of Motion

MM27.17	ACTION			Ward: All
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### **Municipal Muffler: Better Tools for Vehicular Noise Enforcement - by Councillor John Filion, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

### **Recommendations**

Councillor John Filion, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards to report back to the Economic and Community Development Committee as part of the upcoming Noise By-law review on:

- a. emerging technologies for automated noise enforcement and opportunities to test and implement them in Toronto; and
- b. strategies to prohibit the installation or modification of any automotive device that would have the purpose of amplifying vehicular noise in commercial locations licensed by the City.

### **Summary**

In the summer of 2020, complaints of vehicle noise escalated dramatically in parts of the City, especially from residents living in close proximity to densely populated arterial roads or freeways. Excessive vehicle noise negatively impacts quality of life and personal health of individuals, especially for those awoken during the night.

In April 2019, Toronto City Council updated the City's Noise By-law to state that "no person shall emit or cause or permit the emission of sound resulting from unnecessary motor vehicle noise... that is clearly audible at a point of reception." However, the enforcement of this By-law remains extremely challenging. Having sufficient resources to address moving sources of vehicular noise is often impractical.

In 2018, Edmonton, Alberta embarked on a pilot study testing automated noise enforcement technology, similar to photo radar. The City of Toronto should be taking a proactive approach towards adopting emerging technologies and equipment to better enforce its by-laws.

The City of Toronto should explore what opportunities for enforcement exist through licensing

auto mechanics, and other similar automotive businesses, to ensure that they are not installing or modifying equipment that would have the effect of unnecessarily increasing or amplifying motor vehicle noise.

With the adoption of the Noise By-law in 2019, City Council requested a report back on outstanding issues related to the updated by-law. These recommendation seek to include specific information on that report, along with implementation strategies.

**Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM27.17