

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM30.11	ACTION			Ward: 5
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Calling on the Provincial and Federal Governments to review the licences and approvals for the meat processing facility at 70 Glen Scarlett Road - by Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Etobicoke York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada to review all licences and approvals required for the operator located at 70 Glen Scarlett Road to ensure that the operator is in compliance with all required licences, conditions and approvals to operate including an Environmental Compliance Approval that imposes appropriate noise and odour restrictions at the site reflective of the community concerns and past history at the site.
2. City Council request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, and other City Divisions to assist, where appropriate, the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada, to ensure the operator located at 70 Glen Scarlett Road, and other businesses within the Stockyards Employment Area, operate in strict compliance with all applicable federal, provincial and City by-laws.
3. City Council request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards to convene a meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and the local Councillor to discuss the ongoing concerns related to the emissions from businesses within the Stockyards Employment Area and to coordinate enforcement efforts.

Summary

The Stockyards (Keele-St. Clair) area of Ward 5 York South—Weston was once home to much of the City's cattle and pork industry, with abattoirs and associated industries occupying as much as 200 acres of land in this area at its peak. Over the past 30 years, with the relocation of many of these businesses to outside the City, the area has transformed with the opening of big box stores and the introduction of residential uses in the late 1990s.

Located at 70 Glen Scarlett Road, the former Ryding Regency meat packing facility was one of

the source of complaints from local area residents and business owners related to noise, odour, truck traffic and contamination of the environment surrounding these facilities with animal by-products. When a proposal for Environmental Compliance Approval was submitted for the facility in 2018, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks granted approval despite nearly 100 comments submitted against the proposal. The facility ceased operations in December 2019 after a food safety investigation into food recalls related to E. coli O157:H7 in various beef and veal products led to the cancellation of their Safe Food for Canadians licence by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

In mid-February residents, business owners and elected officials of the Stockyards community were blindsided by news of the reopening of the former Ryding Regency meat processing facility at 70 Glen Scarlett Road, albeit under a new name. It is reported that the plant will work towards a capacity of 1600 heads per week, making it one of the larger facilities of its kind in Ontario. This was approved without any consultation with the public or with the municipality and is in direct conflict with the current context of the area and City Council's prioritization of the review of the land use permissions at 70 Glen Scarlett Road in the context of the Municipal Comprehensive Review as approved by Council on December 17, 2019.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM30.11