

From: [Adam Golding](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: My comments for 2021.MM36.25 on October 1, 2021 City Council (Part 2)
Date: October 3, 2021 1:17:18 AM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the October 1, 2021 City Council meeting on item 2021.MM36.25, Judicial Inquiry into Encampment Clearings - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

The following email is highly relevant, especially the hyperlinks:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Adam Golding [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, 26 Sept 2021 at 07:26
Subject: Re: Great Work, Mike!
To: Councillor Layton <councillor_layton@toronto.ca>
Cc: Bell-CO, Jessica <JBell-CO@ndp.on.ca>, <Chrystia.Freeland@parl.gc.ca>, Mayor Tory <mayor_tory@toronto.ca>, <councillor_carroll@toronto.ca>, <councillor_matlow@toronto.ca>, <councillor_cressy@toronto.ca>, <councillor_wongtam@toronto.ca>, <ssha.homeless@toronto.ca>, encampmenteoc <encampmenteoc@toronto.ca>, Nabeelah Jamal <Nabeelah.Jamal@toronto.ca>, cc: 311 <311@toronto.ca>, Mayor Tory <Mayor_Tory@toronto.ca>, Councillor Perks <Councillor_Perks@toronto.ca>, Public Health <publichealth@toronto.ca>, <david.hopkinson@torontopolice.on.ca>, <Stephanie.Nakitsas@toronto.ca>, [REDACTED], <justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca>

ADDENDM: I should add that "Dismantling Stubborn Structures, Part Two" has just been re-released: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3-AJGQdp8&t=22s>

On Sat, 25 Sept 2021 at 11:42, Adam Golding [REDACTED] wrote:

Great Work getting the judicial review of Encampment Clearings proposed for Oct 1st!
Other members of TorCH (the Toronto Coalition for Housing -- formed from those ticketed, charged, our injured at encampment clearings, plus our stellar legal team) will probably attend online, how exactly can we know what time of day the issue will be discussed based on the agenda? Still learning how council works :-)

TorCH has begun an online presence--please follow us on social media and encourage other stakeholders and decision-makers to do the same:

https://twitter.com/TOR_C_H
https://www.instagram.com/tor_c_h/

Torch's website <http://torch.help> currently points to the press conference video outside Tory's condo, (hosted on ESN's instagram for now), but will later also include this visual timeline of the history of these events, which we are filling in right now:

<https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/1729255/Encampment-Crackdown/>

In the meanwhile, as winter approaches, there is NO PLAN to prevent people from sleeping outside this winter that doesn't involve tents or tiny shelters, so in addition to this judicial review, we need to END the 'zero encampments policy' *cough, Wong-Tam, can you hear me? and BEGIN to PROMOTE camping in designated spaces so as to thin out the encampments where overcrowding causes social issues and greater fire hazards. Otherwise this timeline will just end in headlines citing death totals when instead it should end with Khaleel Seivwright being named as part of Tory's "COVID-19 Heroes" program for demonstrating both that a. anyone can help and that b. the city is the problem.

Cheers,
Adam Golding

p.s. I am giving a deputation at the police services board on monday where I will suggest the video outside Tory's condo at <http://torch.help> as required training for all officers as an example of policing gone horribly wrong

p.p.s When I mentioned earlier that we should think about defunding policING as well as just defunding POLICE by eg giving police paid vacation or non-violent work, we must also talk more in the public conversation about the REPEAL of laws--as I mentioned in our discussion of Municipal Code 608 the more laws there are, and the more we overlegislate and underenforce, the more differential policing there will be of homeless, racial minorities etc.

We must REPEAL CODE 608--you suggested that if the new signs were used for differential enforcement you would have them removed, well, the public drinking part isn't on these 608 signs, but it's sure being enforced differentially; here is a tale from yesterday in Bellvue:

"I must relate a rather odd series of events--I was playing piano in bellvue when I noticed a mass of bike cops had formed in the centre of the park--after observing for awhile I approached and it was our old friend Bernardo, with bunch of other cops standing away from him--he was talking to a black woman who had just been ticketed for drinking beside white people who were also drinking, and she was praising jesus and her good fortune for being assigned a room from the bond hotel--she doesn't know what it's like as she's from alberta apparently? The whole thing seemed very performative and at the end Bernardo said to me "tell the people to invest in a thermos it will make this easier" -- apparently he is advising us how to avoid getting drink tickets now. The cops dissuaded her (Susie/Susanne Lorraine from Alberta) from taking a rental option in Sherbourne, explicitly warned her of human trafficking in that area and said the bond would be a good place for her to get a room before her lease ran out in three days, that they want to 'get ahead of' homelessness to prevent people from ending up in encampments. I think one of the female officers who was

advancing the line just before I was arrested was there. I mentioned to two women who had stayed around while Susie got ticketed/housed who Bernardo was, before that I'd mentioned the judicial review and the oldest cop there nodded solemnly at me as he was the last to bike away. Earlier Bernardo stated that he believed these women when they told him people come into your room in the night, and agreed they shouldn't be waking people up--these women had attended the city hall press conference and continued drinking openly in front of the cops while not getting ticketed. The fire at the bond was not discussed but they were familiar with it from wyldwych's testimony at the first event. [...]

Bernardo had shrugged his shoulders asking these women if he had better advice, later [redacted] walked by and remarked that she should have taken the room in Sherborne... I feel like someone here will know which advocacy group to ask to contact her at the bond, or do we have a contact at the bond hotel?"

My position is unchanged: MUNICIPAL CODE 608 HAS GOT TO GO, just scrap it and start over by polling each neighbourhood, esp. polling all unhoused residents, about what the *neighbourhood* bylaws should be -- one size does NOT fill all for noise bylaws, park hours, and yes, probably encampments--without polls we have no quantitative *measure* of NIMBYism. Encampments must exist somewhere this winter, as people sleeping exposed to the elements is morally unacceptable, and they should go where NIMBYism is *lowest*.