



Toronto Industry Network C/O Paul Scrivener and Associates
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Toronto Industry Network

June 1, 2023

EMAILED

Councillor Brad Bradford and Members of the
Planning and Housing Committee,
100 Queen Street West,
Toronto, Ontario,
M5H 2N2

Attention: Ms. Nancy Martins

Dear Councillor Bradford and Committee Members:

Re: PH4.5 - Our Plan Toronto: Recommendations on Forty-Five Employment Area Conversion Requests

We are writing to respectfully request that you recommend to Council that it accept the recommendations of the staff report.

Given that the vacancy rate in employment areas is zero, it is difficult to locate new manufacturing to locate and for existing facilities to expand, especially given the continuing pressure by developers to speculate on the finite supply of industrial land. This staff report reiterates the fact that Toronto has more than enough non-industrial land available for new housing. If Toronto is to continue to have a diverse economy with a variety of job opportunities for its citizens, then well-paying manufacturing jobs need to be jealously guarded since they help provide the means to purchase and maintain affordable homes.

Manufacturers also need some certainty in an uncertain world in order to make decisions to re-invest in Toronto when the time comes to replace equipment or modernize facilities. When incompatible land uses (including non-residential) are introduced, then that certainty is diminished. Our members with competing plants in other jurisdictions are acutely aware of this.

Producing goods here that can be used by Torontonians as well as exported to create real wealth must be a priority for the City. During the Pandemic, our factories remained open and produced the essential goods, ensuring employment opportunities continued to exist locally. Designated as essential services. Global uncertainties and supply chain challenges have shown that we must produce more here than abroad.

To approve more conversions of employment lands and islanded industrial facilities is to condemn Toronto's manufacturing to a death by a thousand cuts.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. McLuckie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a stylized "McLuckie".

Craig McLuckie,
President