

**From:** [Christine Skobe](#)  
**To:** [Infrastructure and Environment](#); [Councillor Matlow](#)  
**Cc:** [BTTA - Brentwood Towers Tenant Association](#)  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for 2024.EC9.5 on January 11, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
**Date:** January 10, 2024 12:20:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [BTTA Noise Bylaw-2.pdf](#)

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the January 11, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2024.EC9.5 Implementation Review of the Noise By-law

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.

These comments are from the Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association. I am the President of the BTTA.

Thank you,  
Christine Skobe



Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association  
17-19-21-23-25 Lascelles Boulevard  
Toronto, ON  
M4V 2C1

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Dear Infrastructure and Environment Committee Members,

Thank you for hosting the public consultations for the Noise Bylaw review and requesting our feedback. The Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association represents people living at 17, 19, 21, 23, and 25 Lascelles Boulevard, near Davisville Station (almost 1,000 units) who live and work in the City of Toronto. On Monday, October 2nd, 2023, we held a forum with our members to hear their concerns and opinions during this Bylaw consultation. We would like to share with you what we heard from our residents.

**591-2.1. Amplified sound:** We heard a consensus for lowering amplified sound as per provincial MECP guidelines. Tenants shared concerns about amplified sound disturbances and lack of enforcement from Bylaw officers, who refused to take readings from balconies where disturbances were heard and instead took readings from indoor hallways. We request you adopt separate bylaw provisions into 2 categories: commercial uses and neighbour to neighbour noise levels, and that a general provision re: amplified sound is added so that residents can provide evidence of disturbance when measurements cannot be taken.

**§ 591-2.3. Construction:** Tenants spoke about areas surrounding construction sites, or roads nearby used as staging areas, where workers often arrived before 7am, disturbing tenants with their actions and leaving vehicles idling for hours on end. There was overwhelming agreement that the sound level of the "vehicle reversing noise" is much too loud and disturbs tenants in their homes, far away from the danger area of the reversing vehicle. We request the City add a decibel level to restrict back up beeper noise levels and provide faster enforcement for 311 reports.

**§ 591-2.4. Loading and unloading (Waste Collection)/§ 591-3.1. Safety and government work:** We request that the waste collection exemption be removed from the Bylaw. Our tenants are constantly disturbed on weekends by the sounds of rusty metal recycling and waste bins being towed around the complex in preparation for collection. This is one of the top noise disturbances to our tenants.

**§ 591-2.5. Motor vehicles.** Tenants in our complex are often disturbed by sounds of vehicles speeding down Yonge Street in the middle of the night. We urge the City to implement systems to monitor and fine vehicles with modified exhaust and monitor speeds through Automated Speed Enforcement, as slower cars make less noise. Unnecessary honking of vehicle horns was also identified as a problem, and we ask the City to conduct an educational campaign about the proper use of honking as emergency measures only. Idling of vehicles creates not only a noise nuisance but also a health concern. We ask for greater enforcement against all idling vehicles. We also ask that permitted noise levels of motorcycles and motor vehicles at idle be reduced from 92 to 85 dB(A) and noise levels at specific RPM be added to the by-law. We ask for Toronto Police to be equipped with noise measuring devices, to start enforcing noise regulations and to have at least bi-annual vehicular noise blitzes in partnership with Toronto by-law enforcement officers.

**§ 591-2.9. Unreasonable and persistent noise.** Several community members spoke about problems they had experienced with the sounds from two-stroke leaf blowers and other lawn equipment. As we live next to Davisville Station, some tenants described the screeching of train cars on tracks every morning and every evening. These sounds are persistent and penetrate closed doors. While the City is working to ban 2-stroke gardening equipment, we ask that the City add power tools, such as power washers, to have hours of operations and support establishing a reasonable decibel limit at the source. We also ask that the City of Toronto conduct an internal review and set noise policies for the TTC and other municipal organizations.

We understand and appreciate that the development of our community can create noise. We also believe that we deserve the right to the quiet enjoyment of our homes. Environmental Noise is a matter of physical and mental health, and we urge the City of Toronto to take measures immediately to protect our community from its impacts.

**Sincerely,**

Christine Skobe  
*Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association President*

**On behalf of the Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association**