

councilmeeting

From: Mary-Ellen Francoeur <sistermef@gmail.com>
Sent: May 20, 2025 9:45 AM
To: Mayor Chow; Councillor Fletcher
Cc: Clerk
Subject: [External Sender] Agenda Item for City Council Meeting, May 22: 2025.CC30.5 - Proposed By-law Amendment to Provide Access to Social Infrastructure.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

On behalf of the peace group to which I belong, **Pax Christi Toronto**, I call on you to vote "NO" to the Anti-Protest Bylaw at the next Council Meeting.

Our group is frequently involved in protests relating to peace, justice and human rights. As a Catholic peace group, we are completely committed to nonviolence. The proposed Bylaw goes against the human right to assemble and express opposition to issues which are detrimental to human Life and Freedom. Our nonviolent commitment stops us from using any violent behaviour in our protests. We call on the City of Toronto to uphold the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and to allow freedom of speech and assembly to assure a city and country which protects the rights of the most vulnerable. The City already has laws to deal with behaviours which are violent and do damage to others and private property. There is no need for further restriction of protests of any kind which are nonviolent. Protest is often the only means many citizens have of bringing about important change to respect human dignity. It is often the only way to bring attention to injustice and threats to peace.

Thank you for giving consideration to our group's values and needs. We pray that justice will be done.

In Peace,
Sr. Mary-Ellen Francoeur for **Pax Christi Toronto**