please make my letter visible on the site

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the June 17, 2025 Executive Committee meeting on item 2025.EX24.10, Ensuring Transparency and Accountability in the Mayor's Office

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:

## **Deputation to Mayor Olivia Chow**

By Giuseppe Scoleri, Concerned Citizen of Toronto

Madam Mayor,

My name is Giuseppe Scoleri. I speak today not as a politician, a journalist, or someone with any vested interest—other than that of a resident who deeply cares about the health of our city's democracy.

I am here to respectfully urge you to resume the long-standing practice of livestreaming City Hall press conferences and media availabilities. This simple yet vital function—cut off without clear explanation—has left many in our community confused and, frankly, concerned.

In a healthy democracy, transparency is not a luxury; it is a necessity. When our leaders speak to the media, they are not just answering the press—they are addressing the people. The press serves as an essential conduit, but the public deserves the opportunity to hear your words directly, in full, and without editorial filter or summary.

Livestreaming is not merely a technological convenience. It is a democratic safeguard. It ensures that all Torontonians, regardless of their background or beliefs, can witness the thoughts, priorities, and decisions of their elected officials in real time. It fosters trust. It allows for accountability. And it signals that this administration has nothing to hide.

In an era when misinformation spreads faster than truth, when public institutions are under constant scrutiny, and when trust in government is all too fragile, why would we shut off one of the few windows citizens have to their government's inner workings?

Mayor Chow, you have spoken often of building a city rooted in inclusion, openness, and civic engagement. Resuming livestreams would be a simple yet powerful act in that spirit.

I call on you, on behalf of countless Torontonians who believe in open government, to restore this practice immediately. Let the public hear from you—not just through headlines, but with their own ears, in their own homes, in real time.

Thank you for your service—and thank you for listening.

Sincerely, **Giuseppe Scoleri** Concerned Citizen Toronto, Ontario