

From: [Arnold Margulis](#)
To: [Economic and Community Development](#)
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2026.EC30.1 on July 14, 2026 Economic and Community Development Committee
Date: July 14, 2026 10:45:07 AM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the July 14, 2026 Economic and Community Development Committee meeting on item 2026.EC30.1, Toronto Fire Services 2025 Annual Report.

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.

I REQUEST TO MAKE THESE COMMENTS AVAILABLE TO GENERAL PUBLIC BY POSTING DOWNLOAD LINK.

Comments:

I wanted to raise attention to the need to improve TFS Hazmat Services. I was told there are only 2 Hazmat vehicles in Toronto, so most Hazmat related calls are services by regular Fire Crews, which at times fail to perform duties in compliance with current legislation. To give an example, I'm a tenant of Toronto Seniors Housing Corp, living on one of their buildings.

The City Council successfully addressed in 2025-26 the negative Renoviction trend among Toronto Landlords aimed at rising tenancy rent. However, some landlords keep looking for new way to speedup tenants turnaround allowing rent hike or renovation funds increase at Toronto owned properties. As an active ACORN Tenants Union member, I witnessed growing tenant complaints about the landlords intentionally contaminating indoor air in some buildings or targeted units to speedup tenants turn around aiming rent increase or suppression of tenants maintenance complaints. Some landlords also altered drinking water pipes layout allowing to add chemical contaminants to water supplied to targeted tenant units and downstream the building section. This also happened to me while being a tenant of Toronto Seniors Housing Corporation (TSHC) in retaliation for complaints to Toronto MLS about service deficiencies in the building.

1. When fire crews arrived responding to chemical odor calls, they often failed to investigate the odor cause contrary to obligation to do this. In addition, they are only equipped with Carbon Monoxide Meters, and simply show you the normal meter readings in cases of present chemical contamination and leave the building. The landlord's staff also frequently contaminates building entries, elevators and stairways at night, and arriving Fire Crews simply say that odors are present throughout the building without any attempt to investigate the odor cause and source.

2. Fire Prevention Staff also fails to properly investigate the senior residents reports of chemical contamination in units and the building public areas, even in cases when they observe obvious holes between units where pipes penetrate the walls and ceilings.

3. There is little coordination between Toronto Fire Services and Toronto Public Health in investigating and prosecuting cases of chemical contamination in residential buildings, probably because the departments report to different Deputy City managers. Therefore, the City Manager should improve oversight of these departments, ensuring proper cooperation and performance.

Thank you,
Arnold Margulis
Toronto Resident