



## Official Opposition · l'Opposition officielle

Ontario NDP Caucus • Groupe parlementaire du NPD de l'Ontario

July 22, 2020

Office of the Premier of Ontario  
99 Wellesley St. W.  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1S3

### Re: City of Toronto Noise By-laws

Dear Premier Ford,

We are writing to you to raise our serious concern regarding the untenable increase in construction noise in the City of Toronto.

On March 19<sup>th</sup>, you told Ontarians that noise by-laws would be suspended in a limited fashion for delivery vehicles in order to preserve our supply chains. Less than a month later, you took advantage of that emergency regulatory power to provide an 18-month extension of construction hours for Toronto developers.

Through consultation with residents and the construction industry, the City of Toronto developed a noise bylaw that allows construction equipment to operate Monday to Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., with no construction noise on Sundays and statutory holidays. Ontario Regulation 130/20 of the *City of Toronto Act* overrides this well-considered compromise, preventing the city from limiting non-essential construction noise between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. seven days per week until the regulation expires on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Residents living near residential and commercial construction sites have since contacted our Members, distressed by being jolted awake every morning and being unable to fall asleep at night because of construction noise. This has been exacerbated by the fact that so many of them are also spending every day working and physically distancing at home, giving them no reprieve from the construction noise during the day.

We are sure that you've already been made aware of these concerns. On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 12 neighbourhood associations in Toronto signed a letter calling on you to restore the city's power to regulate construction noise, and on June 29<sup>th</sup> Toronto's City Council adopted a motion to the same effect.

You cannot continue to ignore this problem. In the interest of our residents' health and quality of life, you must immediately amend Ontario Regulation 130/20 to remove the provision regarding non-healthcare related construction activity.

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Residents are already facing tremendous stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic; they need to be able to get a good night's rest.

We look forward to your prompt response and confirmation that you will be amending the regulation.

Sincerely,

**MPP Jill Andrew**

Toronto – St. Paul's

**MPP Doly Begum**

Scarborough Southwest

**MPP Jessica Bell**

University – Rosedale

**MPP Rima Berns-McGown**

Beaches – East York

**MPP Jeff Burch**

Critic for Municipal Affairs

**MPP Chris Glover**

Spadina – Fort York

**MPP Faisal Hassan**

York South-Weston

**MPP Bhutila Karpoche**

Parkdale – High Park

**MPP Suze Morrison**

Toronto Centre

**MPP Tom Rakocevic**

Humber River– Black Creek

**MPP Marit Stiles**

Davenport

**MPP Peter Tabuns**

Toronto – Danforth

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