

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

16. Review of Impacts from Industrial Sources (Focus on Odor) and Potential Municipal Actions (Primarily South of Highway 401)
- R. Wrigley, Ministry of Environment & Climate Change – see attached presentation.
 - R.L. Gillis, 2753 Dingman Drive – presenting a video of area residents and businesses, as well as their comments with respect to the odor created by area businesses (available as a part of the meeting video record); requesting the city act to remove the businesses causing the mal odor; offering a comparison as to how the city appears to act on concerns of the area and noting that industry does not belong in a residential area.
 - Susan Smith, Bruce Street – noting some history in the area, and suggesting that there should be consideration to expanding the companies under consideration of ‘polluting’; suggesting that any pilot project begin in March of 2018, and noting that everyone should be composting at home.
 - P. Firth, 4499 Wellington Road – advising that he operates a veterinary business in the area and his clients have complained of the odor; advising that trying to advise the city is long and onerous; noting that he is relocating north of London for his retirement; and registering his dissatisfaction with having been annexed by the City of London.
 - J. Peterson, 5011 Wellington Road – indicating that he has been involved with this issue since the beginning; stating that he has been in contact with the owners of the plant over the years and is aware of their successes in other municipalities; stating that the odour issue was a big deal right from the beginning; noting that the Orgaworld plant in London is the biggest facility the owners had built and the feed stream is different from what they are used to as well as the Canadian climate; noting that this is a big money contract and that most of the material that comes in from the Toronto and York region; indicating that he has served on the public liaison committee that met regularly to review ways to limit the odour until 2012 when they were informed there was nothing that could be done; stating that this plant deals with kitchen waste, bathroom waste and pet waste from Toronto and York region for 1.3 million people; noting that the end product from the plant is very contaminated and does not meet the basic compost standards and the liquid needs to be handled as hazardous waste and this is what people in the area of the plant are inhaling; stating that studies have stated that the air is not contaminated from the plant but he believes that if it was going into the water system it would be shut down because of the contaminants; indicating all of the businesses and areas of the City that are affected by this problem; stating that the facility needs to be shut down and that it is a total failure on the air part of it and the end product.
 - D. Gillis, 2753 Dingman Drive – stating that residents in his area have been subjected to bad odours from the plants for over ten years now; indicating that the people making comments at the meeting are not embellishing; noting that at the last public participation meeting in 2012 it was suggested that most of the complaints from people in the area had come from the same few people but it is documented on the agenda that the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has documented complaints from 111 individuals which accounts for over 90% of the homes in the Brockly/Shaver area; stating that many of the complaints are regarding the bad odour but that there is also a problem with the noise; indicating that the residents are requesting air testing in the area but also noise testing; noting that he appreciates the work done on the staff report but that the complaints and violations are off the charts for Orgaworld and there should not be two more years of talks; stating that the transgressions are growing, not diminishing and they are so far beyond what the MOE finds acceptable; indicating that the cost of re-locating over 150 homes would be far more than relocating the plants or just shutting them down.
 - B. McCullen, 4759 Wellington Road – stating that he has been dealing with this issue for a very long time and has been before a City Council a number of times before and that he has had enough; stating that there needs to be a nuisance by-law for adverse effects, whether it be vibrations, noise, smell or light from the StormFisher and Orgaworld plants.
 - D. Duvall, 2700 Westminster Drive – stating that there is a financial consequence for the people in the area; indicating that when she bought her home in the 80’s she chose it over a property in Old North that cost the same and now the property in Old North is worth twice as much as her property is; noting that this issue has been going on for over ten years now and the financial consequence will affect the City of London, Orgaworld or the residents in the area and so far it is the residents taking the financial loss; indicating that the smelling machine is just a way to put residents off for another ten years until they have no fight left.
 - N. McCullen, lives next door to Orgaworld – stating that when Orgaworld moved into the area they did not let the residents in the area know; indicating that Council created this problem and it is insulting to have a smelling machine to measure what the residents are smelling; stating that Council just needs to shut the plants down and fix this.

- B. Early, 19 King Street – stating that he is at the meeting for another matter and he sympathizes with the residents and their concerns; indicating that Council should take a stand and do something about this issue.
- M. Williams, 6776 Bradish Road – stating that he is not dealing with Orgaworld, he is dealing with the City landfill; indicating that he has been contacting the Ministry of the Environment for years and before that he was contacting the City of London until he found out that there was no record of his complaints; noting that he has joined a number of committees, including the public liaison committee, to try to get something done about the odours from the landfill; stating that the frustration people are stating is just; noting that he cannot enjoy his property that he saved up for because of the odour around it; indicating that they have a right to enjoy their standard of living and the City has a responsibility to the residents in these areas to maintain their quality of life; stating that he disagrees with the smelling machine and that there are 100 people standing in front of the Committee saying that there are odour issues in South London.
- Lily, Dingman Drive – expressing shock at how many people sitting in the gallery are embarrassed and wondering how many people in the chambers are embarrassed because we all live in London; indicating that the smelling machine is not enough and that everyone should have to put themselves in the shoes of the residents for one night to try to understand what they are dealing with.
- D. Connor, 2716 Dingman Drive – stating that the odour in the area has ruined her enjoyment of the outside and that it has made it a terrible place to live.
- W. Bagrin, 2552 Dingman Drive – noting that his property is the closest one to the StormFisher plant; stating that he has applied to MPAC twice with the request to reconsider the property taxes and asking to at least lower the taxes temporarily until the problem is fixed and it was denied both times.
- A. Jervoni, 2502 Dingman Drive – stating that his property is across from StormFisher plant; indicating that he has six children and that he likes to have guests over and if the wind changes they all have to be inside; stating that it is frustrating to call when there is a problem because there are so many questions to answer each time; noting that people dealing with this are reaching a breaking point and it is not right; stating that people have a right to live a normal life; requesting that the plant be removed from the area.
- R. Merriam, 6806 Fisher – noting that he has a ten acre property with woods and it was a nice place to live with his family; stating that in 2010 the smell became more noticeable day after day and when he called the City he was told they were looking at different options to deal with it; indicating that he has to pay more in utilities every day because he has to keep the windows closed to keep the smell out; stating that if he was creating a nuisance by using a chainsaw or having a fire he would be complained about so how is it possible that this smell has been so bad for so long.
- S. Givlin, Wilton Grove Road – agreeing with the previous comments made; requesting that when people go home tonight and enjoy the fresh air, that they think of the residents in this area that can't have their windows open; and noting concern for what the residents have to breathe in their air.
- M. Moussa, 155 Thornton Avenue – noting that this issue does not affect him in Old North, but that he is appalled with what he has heard from residents; advising that new equipment for by-law enforcement is not a solution; and asking what can the city do, when it's been made clear that the Ministry of the Environment is responsible and is the only body that can lay charges.
- A. Tipping – summarizing experience with the Ministry of the Environments, and the issues with complaints and trying to confirm odor readings; suggesting that the proposed equipment for by-law enforcement isn't worthwhile; sharing photos of his property (3 acres), and noting that his family cannot enjoy the property – their quality of life is diminished; providing a chronological list of MOE orders for the businesses, as well as statistics on recorded detections, levels of detections, etc.; advising that data and statistics already exist and new equipment (and pilot project) are not necessary, this will not produce new information; suggesting that this is a serious problem, and council needs to take action and the residents are prepared to testified in court.