

April 27, 2018

Dear Councilor

The Middlesex Health Unit has proposed a Supervised Consumption Facility for opioids to be located at 446 York St. I write this letter to convey to you that I am strongly opposed to this location.

My business is located at 444 York St and I own the building as well. Additionally I own the building at 333 Burwell which has residential apartments. Our business has been here for 13 years. It is a full service financial planning and investment counseling firm. We have over 600 clients, 95% who come to our office for their meetings. We have invested heavily in preserving the heritage of the buildings as well as the up keep. We maintain business hours from 8am to 5pm and currently employ 5 people.

The TVDSB and the Separate School Board have conveyed to the Middlesex Health Board that they do not support this proposed location as it is within 300 meters of Beal. Paul Sydor, Superintendent of TVDSB was at the meeting April 26 at 399 Ridout hosted by the Health Unit and stated this information. We are in complete agreement with the School Boards this location is too close to Beal.

There are 17 businesses within 500 meters of this proposed site. It is proposed to be placed in the middle of 7 businesses that rely significantly on foot traffic for the success and ongoing viability of their business.

There is also significant high density residential within 250 meters of the proposed site. At the meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> the tenants expressed grave concern with this location.

York St. is a major east/west vehicle artery into downtown with large volumes of traffic. Being located right beside the proposed site we wish to inform council that jay walking is an everyday occurrence. Vehicles must then take evasive maneuvers to avoid people crossing to the men's mission, either by breaking, swerving around the jaywalker or changing lanes. We are very concerned that this location will have an increase of impaired jaywalkers putting both at jaywalkers and drivers at risk.

The city has invested significant money in the Convention Center and supports the expansion of Western Fair. These are tourist areas and York St. is a major travel route for people attending either facility or commuting between the two. Increasing the density of homeless and impaired drug users in this area during is not appropriate.

There has been significant investment by the local businesses in their properties in the last number of years and it is proposed that there be more. This is a revitalizing community.

A community is an ecosystem and currently there is a precarious balance between the men's mission, businesses, property owners, residents and customers visiting the area of the proposed site. There are real issues with the mission, however, the community embraces the need of the mission and deals with

these problems as part of this ecosystem. The increase in people attending 446 York St has a real risk of throwing the community out of balance.

The community was notified April 23 that the Health Unit would be holding a meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 399 Ridout St to discuss their proposed site. There has been no consultation with the community. In fact the proposal to the Planning and Environment Committee scheduled to be heard by Council on April 30<sup>th</sup> was posted to the Health Units website before the first community meeting.

The speed in which the Health Unit is moving to force the approval of this location is not appropriate. There has not been proper study or debate. This is a serious issue and the community needs to be properly consulted and respected. There has been no due diligence as far as this site at 446 York Street as far as I am concerned.

I also am concerned with the property values of our business if this facility moves in next door. I found it curious that the material provided at the public information meeting showed property values for Vancouver. This is like comparing apples to oranges. We are nothing like Vancouver.

For these reasons I urge you to not support the location or zoning change to allow the Supervised Consumption Facility at 446 York Street.

Cathy Bradbury

444 York St

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