

May 11 2018 7:04am

Submission of **petition** to the PEC concerning file OZ-8852

Executive Summary:

At a Glance

91.4% of West SOHO residents want a jointly moderated (community/applicant) a series of public meetings with full consultation to be held prior to further action on the proposed SCF in the immediate community.

Purpose:

On May 09-10 2018, volunteers undertook an ambitious attempt to engage public feedback on the proposal for a Supervised Consumption Facility and whether residents had felt they had been adequately consulted. The late date for starting this initiative speaks to reality that Middlesex London Health Unit and its partner London Middlesex Housing Corporation have been deficient in community engagement.

Geographic area consulted:

The area consulted was a 4 block radius that defines the informal boundary of the Health Canada exemption for possession of a controlled substance. This 4 block radius is the one put in place by the Vancouver Police Department for the iNsite Project that has been championed as a model by MLHU.

Unfortunately due to time constraints only 45-55% of this zone was capable of being canvassed before the 8:30pm cut off

Findings:

Our volunteers were able to speak to 128 residents in the community prior to today's deadline over a period of 2 evenings. 117 residents have signed the petition demanding a stay of council deliberation until MLHU and the LMHC hold a public meeting, with a moderator that is acceptable to West SOHO Residents.

Further our volunteers sought the voices of residents of 241 Simcoe and during our tight timeline volunteers spoke to 31 residents with 25 signing the petition prior to the 8:30pm cut off.

More Community Activism

Our volunteers also learned that residents at 241 Simcoe have created a petition with 151 tenants demanding that a SCF not be built on the ground floor of their home.

The City of London, the Middlesex London Health Unit and the London Middlesex Housing corporation must immediately seek public meetings allowing sufficient time for residents to attend. These public meeting must seek social license from the SOHO community prior to action being undertaken with respect to OZ-8852.

Sincerely

David Lundquist

Community Organizer and resident of West SOHO.

West SOHO Residents

May 09, 2018

Planning Environment Committee,

Public Participation Meeting - Not to be heard before 4:45 PM - Planning for Supervised Consumption Facilities and Temporary Overdose Prevention Sites (OZ-8852)

We are residents in the immediate area covered by Health Canada for the proposed permanent Supervised Consumption Facility (SCF) located at 241 Simcoe Street. We are writing this letter to the Planning and Environment Committee to delay the zoning amendment for the above address.

We feel that Middlesex Health Unit must conduct a public meeting for all residents who are within at least a 4 block radius in which police will not charge an individual for possession of illegal drugs.

Our community has worked hard over the last many years to document and maintain the cultural history through plaques, home restorations, and creation of beautiful gardens.

We have not been consulted on the SCF. As residents, we want input, and have a right to review the entire plan. There has not been any attempt to seriously consult us on plans, the Middlesex Health Unit and their partner London Middlesex Housing Corporation have been working on for months. City Council must insist that prior to any zoning amendment in the community, there must be meaningful consultations that take place. The short deadline that has been given for this project unfairly excludes our voice.

We ask the PEC to request Middlesex Health Unit and London Middlesex Housing Corporation conduct further consultations prior to a zoning amendment being approved.

Sincerely

Residents of west SOHO