

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Assunta Ferrante](mailto:Assunta.Ferrante)
Subject: FW: [External] Feedback on the Proposed Safe Access Bylaw to be submitted to City Council at the Committee.
Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 8:16:02 AM

From: Laurence Price [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 8:07 AM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca; Council@vaughan.ca
Subject: [External] Feedback on the Proposed Safe Access Bylaw to be submitted to City Council at the Committee.

CAUTION! This is an external email. Verify the sender's email address and carefully examine any links or attachments before clicking. If you believe this may be a phishing email, please use the Phish Alert Button.

I wrote an email to Mayor Del Duca's office about the rise in antisemitism in Vaughan and its relationship to the protests. In my response, I was told that I could submit feedback on a proposed by-law aimed at protecting Vaughan's places of worship, schools, childcare facilities, and hospital from protests that intimidate, or incite hatred, intolerance, and violence, which will be presented to City Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for June 18th, 2024. The following is my written communication, which I would like to submit.

Greetings,

I appreciate being given the chance to comment on the proposed Safe Access Bylaw. As a resident of Thornhill and a member of the Jewish community, I am writing to express my strong support for this initiative, which is crucial for enhancing community safety by legally restricting protests within 100 meters of sensitive areas like places of worship, schools, childcare facilities, and hospitals in Vaughan.

This bylaw aims to establish a protective buffer zone around these vulnerable community spaces. Such measures are vital to ensure that these areas remain safe havens, free from disruptions that could incite hatred, intolerance, and violence.

In addition, I am particularly concerned with the safety of neighbourhoods that are predominantly Jewish. Recent incidents where these communities

have been specifically targeted by protestors entering residential areas to intimidate and harass residents with antisemitic rhetoric highlight the need for extending similar protections to these neighbourhoods. It is imperative that provisions to prohibit such protests near private residences are also incorporated into the bylaw to protect residents from targeted antisemitic harassment and ensure their security at home.

Recent attacks on synagogues and other Jewish institutions, including shootings and firebombings, underscore the urgent need for robust protective measures. The rise of such violent acts against our community facilities has heightened the sense of vulnerability among us and further emphasizes the necessity for this bylaw. The threats and intimidation against the Jewish community must stop.

Although this proposed bylaw is a good first step, much more work remains to combat this trend.

I commend Mayor Del Duca and the City Council for their leadership in crafting this legislation. However, this bylaw will only be effective if enforced rigorously to safeguard the Jewish community. The bylaw must not only be supported but actively implemented to ensure that our city remains a beacon of inclusivity and security, especially during these turbulent times.

I am deeply invested in the well-being of our community and am optimistic about the positive impact the adoption of this bylaw will have. I urge the Council to adopt this regulation swiftly.

Thank you for considering my suggestions. I understand the importance of timely feedback in the legislative process, so I am submitting this input before the June 17th deadline for consideration on the Safe Access Bylaw.

Best regards,

Laurence Price

■ Robinwoof Trail
Thornhill, Ontario, L4J6K7
■