



Emergency Preparedness and protective services committee

Minutes

Meeting #: 22
Date: Monday, March 23, 2026
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Champlain Room, 110 Laurier Avenue West, and by electronic participation

Present: Councillor Riley Brockington, Councillor David Hill, Councillor Jessica Bradley, Councillor Steve Desroches, Councillor Sean Devine, Councillor Allan Hubley, Councillor Laine Johnson, Councillor Clarke Kelly, Councillor Matt Luloff, Councillor Stéphanie Plante, Councillor Isabelle Skalski

Absent: Councillor Laura Dudas

1. Notices and meeting information for meeting participants and the public
Notices and meeting information are attached to the agenda and minutes, including: availability of simultaneous interpretation and accessibility accommodations; *in camera* meeting procedures; information items not subject to discussion; personal information disclaimer for correspondents and public speakers; notices regarding minutes; and remote participation details.
Accessible formats and communication supports are available, upon request.
Except where otherwise indicated, reports requiring Council consideration will be presented to Council on April 8, 2026 in Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services Committee Report 22.
The deadline to register by phone to speak, or submit written comments or visual presentations is 4 pm on Friday, March 20, 2026, and the deadline to register to speak by email is 8:30 am on Monday, March 23, 2026.
2. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were filed.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 EPPSC Minutes 21 – February 19, 2026

Carried

4. Responses to Inquiries

4.1 OCC 2026-02 Extremism-Related Risks

Written correspondence was received from Don Lalonde and is held on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

5. Emergency and Protective Services Department

5.1 Food Premises Licensing Review

File No. ACS2026-EPS-PPD-0001 – Citywide

Mr. Ryan Perrault, General Manager, Emergency and Protective Services (EPS) Department, introduced the following members of staff who had provided input into the report and were in attendance to respond to questions:

- Ms. Samantha Montreuil, Interim Manager, Public Policy Development, EPS
- Mr. Joshua Davis, Specialist, By-law Review, EPS
- Mr. Jake Gravelle, Associate Director, By-law and Regulatory Services, EPS

Ms. Montreuil and Mr. Davis spoke to a detailed slide presentation which served as an overview of the report. A copy of this presentation is held on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

The following members of the public spoke before the Committee and provided comments on the item:

- Lawry Trevor-Deutsch, President, Strathmere Associates Ltd.
- Melanie Brulée, Executive Director, Ottawa Music Industry Coalition
- Erin Benjamin, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Live Music Association

- Geneviève Bétournay, Founder/Chief Executive Officer and Creative Director, Art House
- Matías Muñoz, Owner, FONO HiFi Lounge
- James Scott MacKillop

Councillor Plante raised a Point of Order with regard to Mr. MacKillop's presentation, stating that it does not relate to the item before Committee. The Chair ruled on the Point of Order and allowed the speaker to finish his presentation. The Chair further advised the speaker to address the matter before Committee.

- Farid Dagher, Owner/Founder, City Gridwrks, Annx, City at Night, Afterlight
- Kwende Kefentse, Principal, Memetic Media
- Alex Maltby, Programming and Partnerships, Arts Ottawa

Written correspondence was received from Brian Innes, President, Hintonburg Community Association, and is held on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

Ottawa Public Health representative Dominique Bremner, Manager, Environmental Health, was also in attendance and responded to questions.

Following questions to the speakers and to staff, and at the conclusion of Committee discussions, the report recommendations were 'Carried', as presented.

Report Recommendation(s)

That the Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services Committee recommend that Council approve the following amendments to the Licensing By-law (No. 2002-189, as amended):

1. **New and updated definitions and regulations in the by-law and in Schedule 7, relating to food premises, as described in this report and in the general form set out in Document 1; and**
2. **Updated regulations in Schedule 5, relating to amusement places, as described in this report and in the general form set out in Document 2.**

6. In Camera Items

There were no *in camera* items.

7. Notices of Motions (For Consideration at Subsequent Meeting)

7.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor S. Devine (on behalf of Councillor S. Menard) - Ottawa's Noise By-law and consistency with NPC-300 Environmental Noise Guideline

WHEREAS the City of Ottawa's By-law Review Work Plan identifies regulatory by-laws for review or development in each Term of Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 129 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, a municipality may prohibit and regulate with respect to noise, vibration, odour and dust; and

WHEREAS the City's Noise By-law regulates noise in order to preserve, protect and promote public health, safety, welfare, and the peace and quiet enjoyment of property by residents of the City of Ottawa; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has published provincial environmental noise guidance, including Publication NPC 300 ("Environmental Noise Guideline – Stationary and Transportation Sources – Approval and Planning"), respecting the control of noise emissions from stationary sources and related land use planning considerations; and

WHEREAS one stated purpose of NPC 300 is to provide sound level limits that may be incorporated into municipal noise control by-laws developed under the *Municipal Act*; and

WHEREAS NPC 300 distinguishes between daytime and nighttime assessment periods and recognizes that nighttime conditions are particularly sensitive for residents due to lower background sound environments and sleep related impacts; and

WHEREAS residents in neighbourhoods adjacent to newly built apartment buildings, including but not limited to 275 Carling Avenue (The Clemow in Ward 17) and 1354 Carling Avenue (The Talisman in Ward 16), have reported recurring seasonal rooftop mechanical and

air conditioning noise that may be inconsistent with the recommendations of NPC 300, but that has not resulted in an actionable enforcement outcome under the City's current Noise By law; and

WHEREAS similar concerns have been raised in Ward 9, including situations where residents of 330 Titan Private and 120 Grant Carman Drive report late night and overnight rooftop mechanical and refrigeration noise originating from a nearby commercial property, that may also be inconsistent with the recommendations of NPC 300, but that have likewise not resulted in an actionable enforcement outcome under the City's current Noise By law; and

WHEREAS municipal noise by-laws are primarily designed as complaint driven enforcement instruments and, in practice, enforcement outcomes can depend on whether noise exceeds prescribed thresholds at the time and location of measurement, which may unintentionally create expectations among residents that by-law enforcement alone can resolve technical stationary source noise conflicts; and

WHEREAS NPC 300 emphasizes a proactive approach to minimizing conflicts between noise sensitive land uses and stationary noise sources at the earliest stages of land use planning and development approvals, suggesting that planning stage controls—such as equipment siting, noise studies, and mitigation measures secured through development approvals—may in some cases be more effective than after the fact enforcement alone;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff include a review of the Noise By-law, including any disparities with the recommendations of the NPC-300 guideline, as an item for consideration as part of the development of the By-law Review Work Plan to be approved by the next term of Council.

8. Inquiries

Inquiries from Councillor D. Hill and Councillor R. Brockington

8.1 EPPSC 2026-01 - Inquiry from Councillor D. Hill

Lithium Battery Fires

A recent CTV News story found that roughly 55 fires were started by lithium batteries over the last two years. With lithium batteries being an

active part of most Ottawa residents' day to day lives it would be valuable for council to better understand the impact these devices have on the Ottawa Fire Services (OFS). With that in mind, please consider the following questions:

1. Of the 55 fires identified by OFS to be started by lithium batteries, how many resulted in structural damage to a home or vehicle?
2. To better understand historical trends, how many fires per year were generated by lithium batteries since 2023? What percentage of total fires responded to in each of those years were caused by lithium batteries?
3. What factors make a home more vulnerable to a significant fire caused by lithium batteries? What devices are most frequently found to have issues with lithium battery fires in Ottawa?
4. How do OFS and the City of Ottawa currently communicate the dangers of lithium battery fires to the public? How does the service track the effectiveness of its outreach efforts?
5. Does OFS require additional resources or support from council or other levels of government to respond to lithium battery fires or to reduce their frequencies?

8.2 EPPSC 2026-02 - Inquiry from Councillor R. Brockington

HVAC Noise Emanating from Talisman Apartments at 1354 Carling Avenue

HVAC noise emanating from the recently built and inhabited Talisman Apartments at 1354 Carling Avenue has created chronic noise concerns in the warm months when the A/C is operating.

The HVAC system is wrapped on the North - East - West sides but exposed / unwrapped on the south side, which faces the residential community.

Ongoing decibel readings from Ottawa By-law are at or very close to 50 dB.

Would staff in Ottawa By-law and Regulatory Services please summarize work to date in monitoring and enforcing noise concerns at this location?

What additional steps can Ottawa By-law take with this property owner to mitigate noise from their HVAC system?

9. Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting

April 16, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

J. Courchesne, Committee
Coordinator

Councillor R. Brockington, Chair