Janet Norman

From:	Karen Chafe on behalf of CityClerk
Sent:	Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:49 AM

To: CityClerk

Cc: Andrea Roberts; Ann-Marie Cashin; Justin Tucker; Tracy-Lynn Goosney; Ken O'Brien; Jason Sinyard;

Lindsay Church; Lindsay Lyghtle Brushett; Planning; Christine R. Carter; Stacey Baird

Subject: RE: (EXT) 47 Smith Avenue - A Change of Non-Conforming Use application

Good Morning:

Thank you for your email. Via this response, I am forwarding it to our planning and engineering staff for their consideration/review. All submissions sent to the Office of the City Clerk will be redacted of personal information prior to inclusion with the report that goes to a future regular meeting of Council on this matter.

Regards,

Karen Chafe City Clerk

From:

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 9:15 AM

To: CityClerk <cityclerk@stjohns.ca>

Subject: (EXT) 47 Smith Avenue - A Change of Non-Conforming Use application

You don't often get email from . <u>Learn why this is important</u>

Comment: The proposed address will be the only Muslim Church on this part of the city. To properly facilitate regular prayers, it is necessary that the operating hours are in alignment with Muslim prayer times. Although the time of Muslim prayers vary with season, to cover all seasons, the proposed time of operation 4am-12am is necessary.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 3:18 PM

To:

CityClerk

Subject:

Comment on Application - 47 Smith Avenue

You don't often get email from

Learn why this is important

Hi I am

I wholeheartedly endorse the Discretionary Use application submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America for 47 Smith Avenue. The proposed change in hours for the Place of Worship is not only essential but also highly beneficial for the small Muslim community in St. Johns. This adjustment will provide them with a dedicated space to practice their faith, fostering a sense of belonging and unity within the community. It's worth emphasizing that this change will not have any adverse impact on the neighborhood. On the contrary, it will enhance the neighborhood's cultural diversity and promote understanding among its residents, further strengthening the bonds of community.

From:
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 12:19 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Application - 47 Smith Avenue [To change the hours of use for a Place of Worship]

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Hello,

I hope this email finds you well. I like the new proposed time. It would be great if the city of St john's approves the timing for prayer.

Regards,

From:

Subject:

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 3:48 PM

CityClerk

To:

About the mosque.

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. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR code unless you recognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious of the message use the **Report a Phish** button to report it.

Hi,

I hope you are doing well. I'm supporting this cause of mosque in St. John's. It's really needed for the community. You are requested to please provide the chance for this cause. It would be a great gesture.

Thanks,

From:

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 3:48 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Application-47 Smith Avenue

You don't often get email from

Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR code unless you recognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious of the message use the **Report a Phish** button to report it.

Dear officer,

I am writing this in support of the application submitted by ICNA for the change of hour. The reason for this is the early morning religious practices. Allowing this will help the muslim community to offer prayers on time according to Islamic teachings. This adjustment would greatly contribute to our spiritual growth and the ability to fulfill our religious obligations.

Our history reflects our dedication to being responsible and considerate residents. Therefore, I firmly believe that the proposed change in hours will not adversely impact the neighborhood in any way.

In conclusion, I kindly request that you consider our application in a favorable light, understanding the significance of accommodating early morning religious practices. This change would enhance the spiritual well-being of the Muslim community.

Thank you

From:

Subject:

Sent: Saturday, November 4, 2023 12:27 AM

To:

CityClerk (EXT) Re: City of St Johns News - Application - 47 Smith Avenue

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. Learn why this is important

I have lived near a mosque in Egypt the noise from prayer at 4 am will keep the residents of Smith Avenger up half the night ..

Hopefully someone at City Hall will check into their pray and chant times of 4 am before you approve the application.. Regards



Sent from my iPad

On Nov 3, 2023, at 14:30, noreply@stjohns.ca wrote:

City of St Johns News

ST. J@HN'S

City of St Johns News

11/3/2023 4:00:00 PM

Application - 47 Smith Avenue Application

A Change of Non-Conforming Use application has been submitted by Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Avenue.

Description

The proposed application is to change the hours of use for a Place of Worship. The applicant is proposing revised hours of 4 a.m. - 12 p.m. seven (7) days per week, which would be extended from the currently approved hours of 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. The floor area will remain at approximately 485m2. On-site parking is provided.

Comment By

9:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2023.

Comments

Provide your comments to the Office of the City Clerk including your name and address to cityclerk@stjohns.ca or P.O. Box 908, St. John's NL A1C 5M2.

Comments received become a matter of public record and are included in the Council agenda for the date a decision on the application will be made. Any identifying information (including your name) will be removed prior to your comment being released publicly. If you are writing on behalf of a group, organization, business, etc. and wish to remain anonymous, you must indicate as such with your submission.

Collection of personal information is authorized under the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 and is needed to consider your comments on this application. Questions about the collection and use of your information may be directed to the City Clerk at 709-576-8202 or cityclerk@stjohns.ca.

Council Decision Date

November 28, 2023.

Additional Information

Notices are sent to property owners within 150 metres of the application site. For more information call 709-576-6192 or email planning@stjohns.ca.

The Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries have Wi-Fi available in the parking lot of each library location if a resident has their own device: Arts & Culture Centre (125 Allandale Road, St. John's), Marjorie Mews Library (12 Highland Dr, St. John's), and Michael Donovan Library (655 Topsail Rd, St. John's).

Read this article on our website.

ST. J@HN'S

CONTACT US

10 New Gower Street, St. Johns, NL A1C 5M2 709-754-2489 | City of St Johns

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Privacy Policy

From:

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 1:10 PM

CityClerk

To:

Subject:

Comments re: 47 Smith Ave

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Learn why this is important

To whom it may concern:

This email is a brief comment on the application for 'A Change of Non-Conforming Use application has been submitted by Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Avenue'

I wish my comments to remain anonymous on records.

The change in hours from what would be considered typical day hours to include all but 4 hours each day, for 7 days a week, is a drastic change. Any request for a drastic change such as this should come with a justification as to why the change is requested? The new hours include very early and very late hours - is this to accommodate all 5 times of Muslim worship per day? Is this because the Place of Worship in question intends to become also a place of shelter? Independent of the reason for the change of hours, why the change now? Further, it seems that this change can come with very early (just before 4 am) or very late (just after midnight) car and people traffic and thus noise. The Place of Worship is in very close proximity to adjacent houses (it is sandwiched closely by houses on all sides), with residents who will surely be disturbed by such traffic. This is different from many other Places of Worship that are more spatially isolated from nearby residential homes and that do not operate at such very late or very early times. I suspect discussion centred around this point is reasonable.

Regards,



From: Sent: To: Subject:	Thursday, November 9, 2023 12:11 PM CityClerk Application 47- Smith Avenue
[You don't often get email https://aka.ms/LearnAbou	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	RNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR code unless you nave confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious of the message use the Report
Hi,	
	. We will be grateful for your kind consideration and approval for the subject wn for providing equal rights and defending the rights of minorities, we are proud of that and bunded by such an amazing people. The mosque shall provide the chance to practice the all the muslims.
Thank you in advance.	
Sent from my iPhone	

From:	
Sent:	Sunday, November 5, 2023 10:24 AM
To: Subject:	CityClerk (EXT) Proposed revision for hours or worship @ 47 Smith Avenue
Subject.	(EXT) Proposed revision for floats of worship & 47 striker/wellde
You don't often get email from	. Learn why this is important
Good day.	
I'm writing in response to a propo	sed change in the hours of worship and the gospel hall, located at 47 Smith Avenue.
	e? Does it permit the building to be used as normal, from 4 a.m to 12 p.m? Does 7 days y day from 4-12, or is it a once a year type thing, Ramadan for example? Details are
	, without further details. If it will be a daily thing, with no schedule, coming and going ear long, this will not be fair to the residents in the area.
I'm a light sleeper	. Every car door
closing wakes me and my wife.	
If I'm not mistaken, isn't the city b	y-law for quiet time, 11 pm through 7 am?
For now, I'm in OBJECTION to this	proposed change
Tol now, thi in objection to this	proposed change.
Feel free to reach out for follow	
Thank you	
Get <u>Outlook for iOS</u>	

From:

Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 3:01 PM

CityClerk

To:

Subject: RE: 47 Smith Avenue (Application of A Change of Non-Conforming Use Application)

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Learn why this is important

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I had a notice in the mail regarding an application by the owners of 47 Smith Ave to change their hours of operation. I have concerns about the new proposed hours of operation since this is a residential neighbourhood and there are houses on each side of the church parking lot and across the road. Listening to cars coming and going, and car doors shut in the parking lot that late at night and early in the morning is quite noisy for such a residential neighbourhood. I'm hoping that the new owners could shift their hours to be closer to normal business hours.

Regards,

From:

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 3:23 PM

To: CityClerk

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CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR code unless you recognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious of the message use the **Report a Phish** button to report it.

Dear Office of the City Clerk,

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America to extend the hours of use for their Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue. The proposed

hours of 4 <u>a.m.to</u> 12 a.m.will accommodate the religious practices that often begin early in the momning and can extend into the late evening reflecting the community's needs

Allowing for these extended hours will serve to enhance the spiritual, cultural, and social fabric of our community by providing a welcoming space for worship and reflection at

times most conducive to the Islamic faith. This flexibility is particularly important during Ramadan and other religious observances when prayers are held outside of the permitted hours.

I believe this change will not adversely affect the neighbourhood, as the organization has a history of being a respectful and integral part of our community. The commitment to

maintain the current floor area and provide on-site parking demonstrates a thoughtful approach to community integration and impact mitigation

I trust that the City Council will find this change to be in the best interest of all parties involved, fostering a spirit of inclusivity and respect for cultural and religious diversity.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter.





Sender notified by Mailtrack



From:	
Sent:	Monday, November 6, 2023 9:06 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) 47 Smitth Avenue

You don't often get email from

Learn why this is important

Hello,

I would like to support the motion that the city of St. John's allows the hours of operation of 47 Smith Avenue to be 4am to 12am 7 days a week.

Regards,

From:

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:00 PM

To: CityClerk **Subject:** 47 Smith Ave.

You don't often get email from

. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR code unless you recognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious of the message use the **Report a Phish** button to report it.

Just replying to the proposed change to 47 Smith Ave. First and mostly this has nothing to do with Religion but many people in the neighbourhood are afraid that the council will make it about religion. But the residents do not feel this way. So lets put religion aside. You are asking the building now open at 4 am-12pm. So firstly the 4am opening. There will be increase noise and traffic. You will hear a car door close and then you are awake for the day. I personally have a problem with sleep so if I get woken at 4am that will be the beginning of my day. If I have to work that means I have to go to work for a 12 hr shift to care for others. That is not feasable. This. is a very small and guiet neighbhood. We have seniors who are afraid and scared if this gets passed. And we have professional who do not agree with the 4am opening. So winter is approaching and the parking lot will need to be cleared so this will happen even earlier, thats not acceptable. So now we will have an increase in noise even earlier. so increased noise, increased traffic, increased in people hanging around.

Also what about the Development Regulations

- -Type or nature of building
 - -place of worship
- -range of parking spaces minimum 1 parking space for every 1-5m of gross floor area. They have 485m2.
 - -so that means that they will require 33 parking spaces when actually they only have 20.
- -1 parking space for every 5m2 of gross floor area which they will not have.

Also what about the noise by law.

We as a neighbourhood was wondering if our spokesperson would be able to address council before a decision is made.

Still 100% opposed.

Look forward to you reply

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 12:30 PM

To:

CityClerk

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue - Parking Question

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Learn why this is important

Hi there,

I had a question about 47 Smith Avenue – the notice put out by the city says ""On-site parking is provided". This parking lot can MAYBE fit 8 cars, and that's with cars blocking each other in to make more space. Even less during the winter.

I understand the prior occupants were likely grandfathered in because the building had been here so long, but I do not understand how today a business can operate with dozens? A hundred? More? people showing up **at once**, and the business is allowed to have such a tiny parking lot.

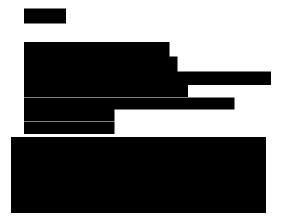
It's not a business with people coming and going throughout the day so less spots are needed, everyone is coming at once.

I cannot comprehend how this parking will be able to work 7-days a week.

It is an issue we deal with Wednesdays and Sundays, which has been fine, but 7 days a week of so many cars parking all at once, with an extremely limited amount of spots, I don't understand how this can possibly work.

Can the city explain how this business intends for all their customers to park in such a small lot?

Thank you,



Sen To: Sub	Wednesday, November 8, 2023 10:43 PM
	You don't often get email from
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of ti	on discussion with members who will be using this building, not one person indicated it was only for a certain period ime, the 4am opening time is to be used 7 days a week all year. This is the opposite of what the city told my husband. Il have spoken to many neighbours who have written to the city as well as our counselor in no response to anyone's inquiries.
	ner the city is giving out incorrect information about 4am only being for Ramadan, or the city was given incorrect ormation by the applicants. This needs to be clarified.
This	pple going in and out for 15-20 minutes at 4am, within 10-15 feet of houses is not okay. Is parking lot is SO SMALL, it is not possible for this lot to hold the cars, on Sundays the street is FULL, they are triple cking themselves in that parking lot, that happening 7 days a week starting at 4am is not okay.
	at are the regulations for the amount of parking spots for a building of this size and use? w that size of a lot is even legal for that size of a building I truly do not understand.
Is th	his building intended to be open to what is basically 24 hours a day year-round on a small residential street???
	ny years ago the neighbours had to fight to get parking on only one side of the street because when the users of the ding were parked the street was so narrow even an ambulance could not fit down the street.
Plea	ase respond to me and my neighbours as we are getting so much conflicting information.
Tha	nk you,
	Tue, Nov 7, 2023 at 11:06 AM wrote:
	have a couple questions (as pretty much the entire street does) about the hours stated for operation of siness.

I understand these are intended to be for Ramadan only - but what is to stop the occupants from coming in at 4am every single day?

The houses on the street are VERY close to this building and the parking lot is so small and close to the houses, there is also a lot of street parking that is used due to the small size of the parking lot (making the noise even closer & louder to the houses). The amount of noise from people coming/going, car doors closing, etc. at this hour of the morning would be tremendous and would impact the community negatively.

This is not a residential street with a church where there's a huge parking lot and/or land mass buffer from the building to reduce noise to the nearby houses, such as Frecker Drive, Craigmiller Ave, etc. The houses on Smith Avenue and this building are so so close to each other.

The houses and this building are so close and noise is heard so clearly that the prior occupants actually used to give out "apology gifts" each year to the neighbours for the noise we endure from them throughout the year, and that is with them only using the building basically Wednesday evenings & Sundays all day until 8pm.

I do truly love the idea of another religion & culture finding a safe space and to be welcomed into the community - but not at the cost of interfering with the (majority senior) neighbours having to hear noise at 4am consistently. I really need to stress how close these houses are to this building – this is a very small residential street.

the houses next door and behind are 10 feet away from this building.

I don't think a blanket extension of the hours to be 4am - 12pm just to cover a holiday season is appropriate. If they have to apply to change the hours to accommodate Ramadan each year I do not see how that is an issue beyond making more work for the city.

The main worry is, if these hours are set for them 24/7 365 - what is to stop the occupants from using the building year-round during these hours? The below link shows the prayer times, if these hours are approved, I do not see why the occupants would not use the building during these hours year-round as it would be completely within their rights to do so.

https://www.manal.ca/sites/default/files/PrayerTimes StJohns 2022.pdf

There needs to be way more clarification into these hours to the public as everyone is extremely confused & upset about this.

Please let me know,

From:

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 11:09 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Fwd: 47 Smith Avenue

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----- Forwarded message -----

From:

Date: Fri, Nov 10, 2023 at 11:07 AM Subject: Re: 47 Smith Avenue

To: Ophelia Ravencroft oravencroft@stjohns.ca, clerk@stjohns.ca, clerk@stjohns.ca<

Thank you for the response.

I completely understand all of that.

Everyone can say it won't be loud, the occupants will be respectful, but as you know, it only takes one person to ruin things for everyone who is being respectful.

My first confusion is why did the city first say it was only for Ramadan? Where did this information come from? There has been so much conflicting information given it is impossible to make an informed opinion on this issue.

Also what every single person seems to be ignoring in this situation, is *how close this building is to the houses*. No other prior spot for this group, nor any other church in the city, is this close to the houses. The two houses on the side are within 10 feet (or closer) of cars being parked.

I have gone and drove past all the churches & buildings being used for worship on residential streets and none of them are even close to being able to be compared to how very very close this building and parking lot is to the houses. I don't understand how everyone is ignoring this when trying to make comparisons. 4am - 12am in this particular building and is completely unacceptable.

- regardless of if 1 person shows up at 4am or 100, every single bedroom surrounding is going to hear these people at this time, then again at 12am.

Also, everyone keeps ignoring the size of the parking lot.

The parking lot can fit 6 cars, maybe. How is this even allowed? For a building of that size and usage.

Currently, on Wednesdays and Sundays, the occupants block each other in on the lot, then a third car is parked on the street, blocking the inside car in with 2 cars. To me, this seems unsafe - although this is a completely different issue. The parking lot just isn't big enough - there's no making it larger.

No one is addressing the actual issues that this would cause the residents. Every single point that would actually affect the home owners in this area is disregarded completely.

4am - 12am is completely unacceptable for where this building is located, and the proximity to houses. It is truly unlike any other similar building in the city because of the time it was built and it being able to be so close to the houses.

I truly hope this group finds a space, but this building is not in the right place for something with hours of 4am - 12am, 7 days a week, being closed only 4 hours a day.

This particular building and its unique layout within a small residential area need to be considered - and everyone is just ignoring the space this building is in and how it affects this application.

Thanks,

On Fri, Nov 10, 2023 at 10:32 AM Ophelia Ravencroft <oravencroft@stjohns.ca> wrote:

Hi

This is, in fact, the first I've seen of these emails, and my apologies for that -- we have a very aggressive spam filter at the City that routinely deletes things it shouldn't, and I'm wondering if this could have gone that way. I'm aware of the proposal for 47 Smith, and as you have noted, the information I have been provided strongly suggests that the masjid will be used for early-morning prayers almost exclusively during the month of Ramadan. This is in line with what I'd expect with my (admittedly limited) understanding of Islamic practices, particularly in the context of Islam as it exists in this city and province.

As I understand it, most Muslims globally -- and certainly all of those I know personally -- do not pray in communal settings for all five daily prayers, but instead perform either some or most in other settings, often in the home (and that's assuming they do all five, which many do not.) The fajr (dawn) prayer is the most commonly dispensed with in this way except during Ramadan, when the obligation for communal worship is considerably stronger, hence the early start times during Ramadan that you mention. Even then, many of the communal prayers can take place in different settings; as an example, it was for quite some time, and may still be, the case that Muslim students of MUN had a designated campus prayer room, particularly for dhuhr (noonish) and asr (afternoon) prayers. The existing Masjid-an-Noor mosque at the other end of town also hosts these students and most other community members for the Jumu'ah (Friday afternoon) prayers, which are typically the busiest, and I believe for some Muslims are also the only prayers they routinely attend in such an environment. If I'm right about that, I would wager that the experience of having a masjid on Smith Avenue is unlikely to deviate significantly from the former St. John's Gospel Hall as far as neighbour experiences are concerned.

All of this to say -- I believe the proposed masjid on Smith is not likely to present major issues with congestion, routine early starts, or the like. When similar proposals have been brought before us in the past with very broad-ranging hours of operation, as one did recently for Canada House, it has often been the case that the goal was not to maintain regular business at those hours, but simply to avoid the necessity of endless discretionary-use applications or individual clearances for events or times of year when those hours would be necessary. The issue is not so much avoiding complication for City staff as

facilitating ease of use for the occupants; in this case especially, I am quite uncomfortable with the idea of making Muslims apply for this kind of permission annually when we do not require Christian churches to do so for things like seasonal midnight services. I'm honestly not sure if we even have the ability to designate extended hours as routinely acceptable only for limited times of the year, which would at any rate be particularly difficult with regards to Ramadan as the month begins and ends at a different time every year. My suspicion is therefore that the question of whether anything stops the occupants from routinely using the property at those early times is answered not so much by City regulation as by the nature of Islamic practice, and on this I hope I have provided some satisfactory comfort.

The Islamic Circle of North America are the proponents behind this masjid, and they do currently have a kind of drop-in building elsewhere in the city which is in some cases used for prayers; we also of course have Masjid-an-Noor as well, which has existed for quite some time. I don't recall coming across complaints about disruptive activities early in the morning for either of those, and I am confident this pattern will continue here. The members of our local Islamic community with whom I have dealt over the last 15 years have been faultlessly kind, supportive, and considerate of their neighbours, and I have no doubts that, should this proposal be approved by Council, yourself and the other residents of Smith Avenue will face no challenges in sharing space with them. Developments like this one are crucial precisely because they facilitate inclusion and equity for all members of our society; my support for them comes not at the cost of some residents' experiences, but rather with an eye to ensuring my Ward is the most accepting, systemically affirming, and welcoming place it can be for all our residents, in all our diversity. I sincerely hope for a future of mutual welcome, positive dialogue, and collective acceptance for everyone involved.

Yours, Ophelia Ravencroft

From:

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 8:56 AM **To:** Ophelia Ravencroft < oravencroft@stjohns.ca>

Subject: Re: 47 Smith Avenue

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Hi there,

I am just wondering if this email was received? Neither me, or my neighbours have received any correspondence to know our emails have even been read/received. Could you confirm?

Thank you,

On Tue, Nov 7, 2023 at 4:54 PM

wrote:

Hi there,

Please see the below email sent to the city today regarding 47 Smith Avenue.

Thank you,

Begin forwarded message:

From:

Date: November 7, 2023 at 11:06:49 AM NST

To: cityclerk@stjohns.ca
Subject: 47 Smith Avenue

Hi there,

I have a couple questions (as pretty much the entire street does) about the hours stated for operation of business.

I understand these are intended to be for Ramadan only - but what is to stop the occupants from coming in at 4am every single day?

The houses on the street are VERY close to this building and the parking lot is so small and close to the houses, there is also a lot of street parking that is used due to the small size of the parking lot (making the noise even closer & louder to the houses). The amount of noise from people coming/going, car doors closing, etc. at this hour of the morning would be tremendous and would impact the community negatively.

This is not a residential street with a church where there's a huge parking lot and/or land mass buffer from the building to reduce noise to the nearby houses, such as Frecker Drive, Craigmiller Ave, etc. The houses on Smith Avenue and this building are so so close to each other.

The houses and this building are so close and noise is heard so clearly that the prior occupants actually used to give out "apology gifts" each year to the neighbours for the noise we endure from them throughout the year, and that is with them only using the building basically Wednesday evenings & Sundays all day until 8pm.

I do truly love the idea of another religion & culture finding a safe space and to be welcomed into the community - but not at the cost of interfering with the (majority senior) neighbours having to hear noise at 4am consistently. I really need to stress how close these houses are to this building – this is a very small residential street.

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The main worry is, if these hours are set for them 24/7 365 - what is to stop the occupants from using the building year-round during these hours? The below link shows the prayer times, if

these hours are approved, I do not see why the occupants would not use the building during these hours year-round as it would be completely within their rights to do so.

https://www.manal.ca/sites/default/files/PrayerTimes StJohns 2022.pdf

There needs to be way more clarification into these hours to the public as everyone is extremely confused & upset about this.

Please let me know,



Disclaimer: This email may contain confidential and/or privileged information intended only for the individual(s) addressed in the message. If you are not the intended recipient, any other distribution, copying, or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify me immediately by return email and delete the original message.

Any correspondence with employees, agents, or elected officials of the City of St. John's may be subject to disclosure under the provisions of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015, S.N.L. 2015, c.A-1.2.

From:

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 1:11 PM

To: Planning; CityClerk **Subject:** Fwd: 47 Smith Avenue

Some people who received this message don't often get email from

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----- Forwarded message ------

From:

Date: Fri, Nov 10, 2023 at 1:10 PM Subject: Re: 47 Smith Avenue

To: Ophelia Ravencroft < oravencroft@stjohns.ca >

Sorry for the repeated emails, but I don't know if the applicants writing the neighbours themselves to explain the times and usage would help?

All people are seeing is 4am - 12am, which is insane for any business to be open honestly within 10feet of homes on a small residential street.

Everyone I have talked to, if they managed to get a response from the city, all got completely different conflicting information.

In reading facebook comments (I know this can't be taken with any authority) - but no member has stated the hours are only for Ramadan.

There's clearly some sort of confusion in information here as each person I talk to at the city has given different information, none of which lineup.

From my understanding (which very may well be wrong but I can only go on what information I have been given, whether it's consistent or not) - is that the city is under the impression that these hours are only for Ramadan, but the people who will actually be using the building, speak nothing of this and say it's intended for year-round (whether 1 or 100 people utilize it at 4am, it will still be available to them).

I'm sure you can understand the frustration and confusion that we here as homeowners are currently experiencing.

Again, 4am - 12am in this particular building, with its layout and proximity to the houses, is still unacceptable - but the more (correct) information we get, the more informed opinion we can make on this.

Thanks again,

From: Karen Chafe on behalf of CityClerk

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 2:54 PM

To: Mayor; CityClerk; Planning

Subject: RE: 47 Smith Avenue - Parking

Good Afternoon:

Thank you for your email. I'm checking with PERS staff about responses to your questions below.

Regards,

Karen Chafe City Clerk

From:

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 11:40 AM

To: Mayor <mayor@stjohns.ca>; CityClerk <cityclerk@stjohns.ca>; Planning <planning@stjohns.ca>

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue - Parking

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Hi there,

I am not sure if the city is going to reply to any of my questions and numerous emails I have sent, but I will continue regardless as new questions come up, and my voice should be heard. Due to no communication from the city, I had to interpret this on my own, please advise me and I am incorrect with the below.

I have asked multiple times about the parking for 47 Smith Avenue (among many other issues that also received zero response) – I understand the building has been there a long time and the prior occupants were likely grandfathered in under prior rules, but this parking lot is EXTREMELY small for the size and use of this building.

Maybe 6 cars can fit in this lot, the occupants prior have used this lot by parking behind each other, blocking in the inside car, then the remainder park on the street, blocking in the inside car by 2 cars, and blocking the middle car – this to me seems extremely unsafe and shouldn't be allowed at all.

Even with all those cars blocking each other in, the amount of "spots" - still wouldn't even meet today's regulations and would be short of the minimum spots.

My confusion with this new application is, according to the development regulations, for a place of worship, there should be 1 parking spot for every 15 meters square.

Type or Nature of Building	Range of Parking Spaces	
	Minimum	Maximum
Light Industrial	1 parking space for every 100 m ² of manufacturing area, provided this is not less than 3 parking spaces per tenant or establishment	1 parking space for every 20 m ² of Net Floor Area
Lodging House	1 parking space for every 2 rented rooms or suites used as a part of the Lodging House	1 parking space for every rented room or suite used as a part of the Lodging House
Long Term Care Facility/ Hospital	1 space for every 10 beds	1 space for every 5 beds
Lounge	1 parking space for every 10 m ² of Gross Floor Area	1 parking space for every 5 m ² of Gross Floor Area
Micro Unit Dwelling	No parking required	1 parking space for every 4 units
Office	1 parking space for every 50 m ² of Net Floor Area	1 parking space for every 20 m ² of Net Floor Area
Personal Care Home	1 space for every 5 Units	1 space for every 2 Units
Place of Amusement Place of Assembly	1 parking space for every 15 m ² of Gross Floor Area	1 parking space for every 5 m ² of Gross Floor Area
Place of Worship	1 parking space for every 15 m ² of Gross Floor Area	1 parking space for every 5 m ² of Gross Floor Area

The MLS listing says it is 5,222 sq ft - which is 485 metres square divided by 15 would be 33 spots.

This lot barely fits 6 vehicles safely.

How is this allowed???

There was never enough parking to begin with, but it wasn't that big of an issue to deal with twice a week for a couple hours, and I assumed it was allowed because it was built before a time when these regulations existed.

Now there will not be enough parking, and the building is basically open 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Please let me know if I am interpreting these regulations incorrectly, but no one will answer any of my questions, so I must make my own assumptions based on existing city regulations.

How is an application for this type of use of a building allowed if the parking doesn't even come close to the city's regulations??

I don't understand why no one is responding to any of my inquiries – this experience has been horrible and it's very clear the city is not concerned about the home owners and residents in the slightest. I am so discouraged and disappointed in how this has been responded to by the city, I've lived here my entire life, I own a home, I contribute to the community, and I cannot get one response from anyone in the city.

I would love to be proven wrong and finally get a response, my emails have been respectful and have asked important questions that myself, as a resident and homeowner in this area, have the right to know the answers too. To be disregarded and ignored in this way is truly not okay and I hope my experience is a one-off and not every resident is treated in such a disrespectful manner.

Thank you,

From:	
Sent:	Monday, November 6, 2023 6:46 PM
To:	CityClerk
Subject:	(EXT) Change of Nonconforming Use application for 47 Smith Ave
[You don't often get email from	. Learn why this is important at
https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSende	erldentification]
I am sending these comments on	behalf of my elderly mother
Turn seriam g these comments on	In our opinion it is unreasonable to change the times for this Place of Worship
to the 4am -12am, 7 days a week	This neighbourhood has houses that are very close together.
clearing, slamming doors when p noise level for many more hours. buildings parking lot for 12-15 ve parking, as did the other church a We just to congested as it is right now of worship in St. John's have a mo	ubjected to the noise coming from this particular building, weather it being snow arking or preaching and singing. Changing the timings, in our opinion will increase the A 4 am start may need snow clearing before that. Also parking is only available on the hicles even less once snow is piled to the sides. Then they will move to the road for and make it very difficult to access driveways. E are not trying to come across as anti-Islam or anti-Muslim, but this neighbourhood is w, to allow prayers 5 times a day, over a possible 20 hours, 7 days a week. Other places such larger footprint, with a larger parking lot, creating somewhat of a buffer zone. Smith Ave. We deserve a neighbourhood that has less traffic and parking congestion
Thank-you	
Sent from my iPad	

From: Sent: Saturday, November 11, 2023 10:10 PM To: CityClerk Subject: A Change of Non-Conforming Use Application for 47 Smith ave You don't often get email from Learn why this is important CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR code unless you recognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious of the message use the **Report a Phish** button to report it. Nov 8, 2023 I am writing this in response to the letter our household of received concerning a change of Non-Conforming Use application for 47 Smith Ave to the City of St. John's. Since 1950 our family have lived at . That place of worship had services three times a week, twice on Sun and services on Wed Evening. The neighborhood of Smith Ave had a great relationship with the place of worship, and they had a mutual respect for the neighborhood. It is our hope that this will continue with the new owners of 47 Smith Ave. We are dismayed with the new owners application of proposed increased services up to four hours earlier and four hours later seven days a week than what was historically carried out at 47 Smith Ave. Specifically, we are concerned with possible overflow parking on the street other than the place of worships own parking capacity and increased noise due to increased activity to twenty hours a day, seven days a week during hours where the neighborhood is usually at rest and asleep. and normally wasn't an issue under the current hours as services didn't take place during quiet hours respecting the neighborhood peace and quiet. It is unusual that a place of worship is in such proximity to residential homes in this manner. Originally the house of worship occupied a very small footprint when built in 1948 and gave adequate separation to the surrounding homes. In the 70's it was renovated and expanded Again, normally not an issue under the three periods of services a week, from 8am to 8pm. Obviously under the 8am to 8pm limitations its going to be busy and we are willing to accept that, it's the 4 hours before 8am and the 4 hours after 8pm we take issue with.

Having the hours changed in this excessive manner would most certainly affect our quality of life and for these reasons possibly affect negativity our property resale value. Who would want to live in proximity to a potential increase in noise and traffic from 4am in the morning to 12am at night seven days a week? Additionally, our neighborhood has many older residents, and they also would be negatively affected by the increased noise and traffic because of the increased frequency of services. This proposed expansion of services to potentially thirty-five separate services based on five

Any questions or clarifications do not hesitate to contact me via email at
Thank you.

services a day vice three per week is well over and above what I would consider reasonable for that residential neighborhood and affects everyone's quality of life. There must be limitations put in place. It is our hope that the

application for expanded service hours will be denied for those reasons and the status quo maintained.

From:

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 6:41 AM

To:

CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) I support the application 47 Smith Avenue

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Hello,

I am writing in support of the application 47 Smith Avenue. I am living in St. John's for last six years and I have seen a major growth of Muslim community here in the city. As the community is growing so fast, the proposed application identifies the urge of a worshiping place for the community.

Therefore, I support this application and looking forward to a positive response.

With kind regards,

From: Karen Chafe on behalf of CityClerk
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 3:02 PM

To: CityClerk

Cc: Andrea Roberts; Ann-Marie Cashin; Justin Tucker; Tracy-Lynn Goosney; Jason Sinyard;

Ken O'Brien; Lindsay Church; Lindsay Lyghtle Brushett; Planning; Christine R. Carter;

Stacey Baird

Subject: RE: Comments regarding 47 Grenfell Ave - Application for Change in Hours

Good Afternoon:

Thank you for your email. Via this response, I am forwarding it to our planning and engineering staff for their consideration/review. All submissions sent to the Office of the City Clerk will be redacted of personal information prior to inclusion with the report that goes to a future regular meeting of Council on this matter.

Regards,

Karen Chafe City Clerk

From:

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 1:09 PM **To:** CityClerk <cityclerk@stjohns.ca>

Subject: Comments regarding 47 Grenfell Ave - Application for Change in Hours

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Date: November 17, 2023

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue – Application to change the hours of use for a Place of Worship

I have happily lived in this same residential area since and an analysis and I greatly appreciate the excellent service we have had from the City of St. John's maintaining this area over those years. I have not had one incident with the City in that time. As for this application, my concerns are:

- The area around 47 Smith Ave is very residential, and I do not understand or agree with a "Place of Worship" needing a starting hour of 4:00 AM and a closing hour of 12:00 PM for seven (7) days a week for worship services. I believe that services going on at those hours would be a disturbance to the residents in all the nearby area. This area of Smith Ave and Grenfell Ave is not compliant for these early and late hours of activity, and I would humbly suggest that a more "industrial area" would suit the hours being requested in this application for this church/business.

-

- o The last church group who owned 47 Smith Ave used much of Smith Ave (north of Pennywell Road) and Grenfell Avenue for parking during church services. The "on-site parking" on 47 Smith Ave was never adequate for the number attending the church services and a proper amount of parking space should be available for a new church purchasing the property. They had services at 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM on Sunday and street parking was workable for those later hours of worship.
- o If a Place of Worship is starting at 4:00 PM and ending at 12:00 PM for 7 days of the week, I would expect that parking on the streets would happen at early and late hours and a level of noise would come with that in the early morning hours and late hours. I believe that would be disturbance during the time frame proposed in the application.
- o Activity and worship for a church, at such an early or late time of church worship, would disqualify a church having a starting time that early or an ending time that late in a quiet neighbourhood such as Smith Ave and Grenfell Ave.
- o I do not know how many people will be attending services in the building on 47 Smith Ave but the number of people should equate to the parking space available on the property parking lot code for this building. And I think that the use of Smith Ave and Grenfell Ave should not be an option for a church applying for this new property. I would expect the city to enforce the parking code for this building property on 47 Smith Ave.

I am pleased to see a church group applying for the property on 47 Smith Ave. But from the lack of information available regarding the number of people and the number of vehicles, the amount of noise, activity, and for those early and late hours being requested in the application, and the lack of adequate parking for the property, hence: I am fully against the application for a "Change of Non-Conforming Use" by the Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Avenue.

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments on this application.



From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 1:49 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Non-Confirming Use Application

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To whom it may concern:

The Non Conforming Use Application submitted by Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Avenue has the potential to create a commercial-like atmosphere in an otherwise quiet, residential neighbourhood, therefore many issues and questions must be addressed before any qualified decisions can be made:

- 1. How would increases traffic flow and parking be addressed?
- 2. The proposed 4am until 12am midnight would definitely interrupt rest and sleep of the adjoining neighbours. Current times are more acceptable.
- 3. Frequent snow removal equipment would create a noisy, annoying situation.
- 4. Approximately how many worshippers would be expected regularly?
- 5. How many weekly or daily services will be offered?
- 6. Will security cameras be installed?
- 7. What additional lighting will be installed?
- 8. Will street parking be permitted?

Insomuch as this has always been a quiet, low traffic neighbourhood, I submit that I am vehemently opposed to the new application.

I welcome any additional information.

Sincerely yours,

From:
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:00 PM
To: CityClerk

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue

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Sent from my

I am 100% opposed to the proposed "Change of Non-Conforming Use application submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America for 47 Smith Avenue.

I can't imagine the impact on this street with cars coming and going 4am to Midnight constantly. Not to mention the noise from conversations and lights from the church shining in my window all night.

Our community has signed a petition and have strong concerns on the impact this will have on all of us.

Regards,

From:	Karen Chafe on behalf of CityClerk
Sent: To:	Tuesday, November 21, 2023 10:13 AM Karen Chafe
Subject:	FW: 47 Smith Avenue
From:	
Sent: Monday, Novemb To: CityClerk < cityclerk@	
Subject: 47 Smith Avenu	
You don't often get en	ail from
code unless you i	s an EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR ecognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious se the Report a Phish button to report it.
Hello, for Place of Worship on	, I received an invitation to provide my opinion on the changing of hours of use 47 Smith Avenue. I would like for my identity to remain anonymous.
It is my opinion that no allocated towards this p comment, if this organize	caxpayer dollars or funding of our municipal, provincial, or federal governments should be roposed change of hours of use for a Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue. Further, if I may ation is currently drawing from taxpayer dollars or government funds in any manner, it is my should be discontinued and allocated to a cause of greater need at this time, such as our healtless.
then I see no harm in all proposed extension of	ment funding is required to expand the hours of use for a Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue, owing the revised hours as proposed by the applicant. That is, it is my opinion that the nours of use for a Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue should be granted if no government or uired to make this change.
	nis invitation to provide my opinion on this matter to the public record. I

so that I can express this full opinion without worry of sociopolitical ramifications.

From:

Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 8:03 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Comments for 47 Smith Avenue

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Dear Gentlemen,

Please note that this was something I was waited for long and this will bring more people to St.John's, thanks

Regards

From:
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 12:38 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Support for Revised Hours for Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Avenue

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Dear Office of the City Clerk,

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America to extend the hours of use for their Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue. The proposed hours of 4 a.m. to 12 a.m. will accommodate the religious practices that often begin early in the morning and can extend into the late evening, reflecting the community's needs.

Allowing for these extended hours will serve to enhance the spiritual, cultural, and social fabric of our community by providing a welcoming space for worship and reflection at times most conducive to the Islamic faith. This flexibility is particularly important during Ramadan and other religious observances when prayers are held outside of the permitted hours.

I believe this change will not adversely affect the neighbourhood, as the organization has a history of being a respectful and integral part of our community. The commitment to maintain the current floor area and provide on-site parking demonstrates a thoughtful approach to community integration and impact mitigation.

I trust that the **City Council** will find this change to be in the best interest of **all parties** involved, fostering a spirit of inclusivity and respect for cultural and religious diversity.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter.

Sincerely,

From:

Sent: Saturday, November 11, 2023 3:14 PM

CityClerk

To:

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue

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Re: Change of Hours

We would like to express our dissatisfaction with the current application for the change of hours for the above noted property.

The change of hours literally means full traffic within a residential neighborhood 20 hours a day 7 days a week for the full year. The city should take a step back and consider the full extent of this application.

For a residential street, we already have an extensive amount of traffic as a commuter street between Empire Avenue and St. Clare Avenue.

This is unacceptable and cannot be approved.

Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:06 PM CityClerk (EXT) Prayer Services hours at 47 Smith Avenue
You don't often get email fro	m Learn why this is important
While I certainly welcome a not midnight, 7 days a week. This is a quiet residential stre	new neighbor to our street, I wholeheartedly disagree with prayer times beginning at 4ar
This is a quiet residential stre	et with many seniors,
•	their differences but this is now infringing on other people's rights . Traffic noise and , or 6am and again after midnight when they leave wil be highly disturbing and upsetting
Please do not not amend the property was even allowed to	hours of service to their request. This should have been discussed and settled before the besold .
Respectfully,	

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 11:35 PM

To: CityClerk **Subject:** Mosque

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Dear Council,

I am respectfully requesting the proposed revised hours of 4 a.m. - 12 a.m (midnight), seven (7) days per week for the place of worship which would be extended from the currently approved hours of 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. The floor area will remain at approximately 485m2. On-site parking is also provided.

Please feel free to reach me for any inquiries. Thank you.

Warmest regards,

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Planning

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 10:59 AM

To: City Clerk

Subject: FW: Comments on 47 Smith Avenue Application

From:

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 9:47 AM

To: Planning <planning@stjohns.ca>

Subject: Comments on 47 Smith Avenue Application

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How is a business in a residential area going to be allowed to be open 20 hours a day? 4am to 12am 7-days a week is absurd for this area.

How is this parking lot going to handle the cars? The cars in the lot are basically within 10-15 feet of their neighbours windows.

People running in/out at 4am to enter the building, there is no possible way that will not affect the extremely close neighbours allowing them to be woken up all day everyday by car doors opening/closing, people talking, etc.

I understand the occupants say they will be respectful, but the layout of the parking lot, the closeness to the houses, it is impossible to not wake the neighbours at that hour.

Also, people leaving the building up until 12am? How is that going to be allowed? Cars doors/people talking/leaving the building at 12am, then another group 4 hours later at 4am???

This building is extremely close to these houses and those hours are completely unreasonable and will cause the neighbours to be woken up at all hours for 20 hours a day. That is completely unacceptable.

I understand this is a place of worship and they have to pray at certain times, but no type of business/organization would be allowed to operate this close to peoples bedrooms windows and have these hours.

These hours are not acceptable to the neighbours whatsoever.

Please respond as most neighbours have been getting no answers from the city.

Thanks,



From:

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 3:41 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: For extension of hours

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Dear Office of the City Clerk,

My name is

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America to extend the hours of use for their Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue. The proposed hours of 4 am to 12 am will accommodate the religious practices that often begin early in the morning and can extend into the late evening, reflecting the community's needs

Allowing for these extended hours will serve to enhance the spiritual, cultural, and social fabric of our community by providing a welcoming space for worship and reflection at times most conducive to the Islamic faith. This flexibility is particularly important during Ramadan and other religious observances when prayers are held outside of the permitted hours.

I believe this change will not adversely affect the neighbourhood, as the organization has a history of being a respectful and integral part of our community. The commitment to maintain the current floor area and provide on-site parking demonstrates a thoughtful approach to community integration and impact mitigation

I trust that the City Council will find this change to be in the best interest of all parties involved, fostering a spirit of inclusivity and respect for cultural and religious diversity.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter.

From:

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 9:22 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Worship Place for Muslim - 47 Smith Ave

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This is really a great initiative. Now more people will settle down in the province compared to earlier. This is much awaited project for Muslim since the only mosque located outside the city and it's not possible for everyone to attend prayer there.

Thank you City of St. John's.

From:

Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 9:56 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue.

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Hi My name is Canadian Citizen. Living almost 10 years in St. John's. We need a worship place in St. John's. Everyday Muslim community is increase here. We have only one permanent worship place in Logy Bay. And that is no enough for all. If we establish another worship place I believe it would be great. I appreciate your concern and help.

Regards,

From:	
Sent:	Friday, November 3, 2023 12:05 PM
Ta.	CityClark

To: CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) Comments on 47 Smith Ave Application

[You don't often get email from Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I am writing to show my support for the Islamic Circle of North America and their application to change the hours of worship at 47 Smith Ave to 4am - 12pm. I personally will not be using this space or service, but I feel that we should welcome community members to worship whenever and however they see fit. I am confident that people using this space will be mindful of their neighbours, and respectful when coming and going at earlier hours. This time change could be a great opportunity for people who want to use this space but who work jobs that don't allow them to access the space during the current hours. I previously had a Muslim coworker who did shift work from 8am-8pm 6 days a week, and when I think of them able to enjoy this space with their community, it makes me want to support the change even more, and I hope others are in support as well.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 8:51 PM

To: CityClerk

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Good for the community.

From:

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 11:45 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue

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Hi,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to express my full support for the initiative to build a mosque at 47 Smith Avenue for Muslims to pray. I believe it is a commendable effort that will greatly benefit the Muslim community by providing a sacred space for their daily prayers.

This initiative not only contributes to the religious and cultural diversity of our neighborhood but also fosters a sense of unity and understanding among residents. I appreciate the positive impact it will have on the community, and I am confident that the mosque will become a place of peace and reflection. Moreover, I am also in favor of its proposed working hours from 4 a.m. - 12 a.m (midnight), seven (7) days per week as there are five prayers in a day starting from dawn to dusk.

If there are any community meetings or events related to this initiative, please keep me informed. I would be interested in participating and contributing to the success of this project.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

From:
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 4:22 PM
To: CityClerk

Subject: RE: APPLICATION 47 SMITH AVENUE

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I, is supporting the motion that the city of St. John's allow the hours of operation to be 4am to 12am.

Thank you.

From:	Karen Chafe on behalf of CityClerk
Sent:	Monday, November 20, 2023 9:41 AM
To:	CityClerk
Cc:	; Andrea Roberts; Ann-Marie Cashin; Justin Tucker; Tracy-Lynn
	Goosney; Jason Sinyard; Ken O'Brien; Lindsay Church; Lindsay Lyghtle Brushett;
	Planning; Christine R. Carter; Stacey Baird
Subject:	RE: 47 smith avenue
Good Day:	
consideration/review.	nail. Via this response, I am forwarding it to our planning and engineering staff for their All submissions sent to the Office of the City Clerk will be redacted of personal information prior eport that goes to a future regular meeting of Council on this matter.
Regards,	
Karen Chafe	
City Clerk	
Original Message	
From:	
Sent: Monday, Novem	ber 20, 2023 9:18 AM
To: CityClerk <cityclerk< td=""><td>(@stjohns.ca></td></cityclerk<>	(@stjohns.ca>
Cc:	
Subject: 47 smith aver	iue
[You don't often get en	mail from Learn why this is important at
https://aka.ms/LearnA	AboutSenderIdentification]
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Good morning,

As requested I wanted to provide comments to the proposed application to the change of hours of use for 47 smith avenue from 4 am to 12 pm (seven days per week) from current 8 am to 9 pm.

We are one of many young families in the neighbourhood with young primary aged children.

These hours are too extreme and would disrupt our normal family routine and our right to enjoy our property in peace.

We feel this change of use would have an overall negative impact on the neighbourhood due to the increased noise & traffic.

Pennywell road is already an extremely busy area. With copious vehicle traffic, as well as pedestrian traffic on Pennywell and on Smith throughout nearly the whole day as it is.

Additionally, this change would diverge too much from the seldom use that facility currently exhibits which is only 2 times per weekend and one weeknight during mid morning or the early evening time frame.

Any suitable tenant would have to occupy that exact same time of usage (or less) and leave the same noise & traffic footprint for an already extremely busy residential area such as ours.

So at this time we respectfully & strongly Oppose the application for change of non-conforming use for 47 Smith avenue.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 10:01 PM
To: CityClerk

Subject: Application - 47 Smith Avenue (Mosque Hours)

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Good day!

Myself,

I would like to record my stance on this matter. I thoroughly support the proposed timings. We, as Muslims, find comfort in Mosques and they shall remain open for an extended period of time for us to be able to visit them or find refuge, when travelling. Please, consider our values before you make a decision. Thank you!

From:

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 8:54 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: 47 Smith Ave - A wonderful addition to St. John's

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Hi there:

Just would like to add our two cents that allowing 47 Smith Ave all to become a small place of Worship for Muslim Community will be a wonderful addition to our cultured and diverse community. This helps people live and stay permanently in St. John's which we desperately need. This will make it more convenient for people to pray. The muslim community is very respectful to their neighbours and their privacy and comfort. There are numerous examples already in the city where the worship happens and everything is well organized and concluded properly without any excessive noise or anything in that regard.

This will be a great addition to the city and we often overlook this aspect when it comes attracting new comers to our beautiful province. We fully support this application and hope it goes through.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 4:50 PM

To: CityClerk
Subject: Prayer Time

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I support the time change as long as the neighborhood is comfortable and welcoming.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 12:14 AM

To:

CityClerk

Subject:

(EXT) Application by The Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Ave

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To who it may concern at the City Clerks Office

With regard to the application by The Islamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Ave, that was mailed out this week, to operate a place of worship from 4:00am to 12:00pm 7 days a week is not something I can support.

Operating any commercial facility at 4:00am in a residential area, while most people are sleeping, who intern have to go to work the next morning, is not acceptable. I have spoken to many of our neighbours and we are all in agreement on the fact this is not acceptable.

The vehicular and people traffic to operate such a facility at those hours will be a major disruption to the normal sleep hours of most people. Correct if I am mistaken but wouldn't this also be a direct violation of the normal hours whereby a resident is allowed to operate past the threshold of 11:00pm to 8:00am in order to not violate the rights of the neighbours under peaceful enjoyment.



From:

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 11:03 PM

To: CityClerk; Planning; Mayor; Sheilagh O'Leary; Jill Bruce; Ophelia Ravencroft; Jamie Korab;

lan Froude; Carl Ridgeley; Maggie Burton; Ron Ellsworth; Debbie Hanlon; Sandy

Hickman

Subject: 47 Smith Avenue - Application for Change of Non-Conforming Use -

Smith Avenue

Attachments: Petition - Residents Opposed to Application for 47 Smith Avenue Page 1.pdf; Petition -

Residents Opposed to Application for 47 Smith Avenue Page 2.pdf; Envision-

Development-Regulations.pdf

Some people who received this message don't often get email from

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Please let me know that this email has been received. Thank you.

I am writing in response to the Change of Non Conforming Use application that has been submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America for 47 Smith Avenue and their request to change the hours of use to 4 a.m - 12 a.m seven days a week.

I am 100% against this application.

I feel the request to open a Place of Worship at 4 a.m (which is the middle of the night) and stay open until 12 a.m seven days a week is beyond unreasonable. Smith Avenue and the surrounding streets are a quiet residential area where most residents work normal business hours (usually starting at 8 a.m) and others are retired seniors. I have never heard of a place of worship operating those kind of hours and everyday. That is unheard of.

I live at

Allowing this request will have grave consequences for the residents of our street plus the neighbouring streets:

- increased traffic especially when residents are sleeping.
- It will create more noise (car doors opening/closing, people talking) during the time when residents are sleeping and when they are heading to bed for the night. This will certainly wake residents and disturb them during hours they are sleeping.
- it will have an effect on snowing clearing as those attending the Place of Worship will certainly park on the street as well. This will make it difficult to clear snow from the street if open that many hours.
- If the building is only closed from 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. the building parking lot will need to be cleared of snow during those times thus waking people up.
- because of the increase in traffic and noise, it will reduce the value of the houses and the ability to sell a house (should someone decide to do that) of those in proximity to this building.

With the increased traffic and noise this will create, I'm sure it will be against the noise by-law.

I have spoken to the majority of the residents within 150 metres of 47 Smith Avenue (this would include Smith Avenue, Grenfell Avenue, Pennywell Road and Prowse Avenue) and we are all against this request. One common theme has come up which was the need for more information. No details were given on what will be happening there for 20 hours per days. I feel there should be some consultation with the residents so they can voice their concerns before any final decisions are made.

One of my neighbours spoke to a representative in the City Clerks office and she was informed that they have received numerous calls concerning this request. Obviously it is a topic of concern for the residents.

During my research on this matter I discovered the **Envision St. John's Development Regulations (As Amended November 2023)**. In that document on page 8-3 the regulations for Place of Worship are "1 parking space for every 15 square meters of Gross Floor Area". The area for the building on the notice was 485 square metres . This would mean it would need 33 parking spaces. There are only 20 spaces for this building. By the regulations in the City of St. John's document there are not enough parking spaces for this Place of Worship. This alone is a reason to reject the application. I have attached a screenshot of the section regarding Places of Worship plus the envision document.

https://www.stjohns.ca/en/building-development/envision-st-john s-municipal-plan.aspx

https://www.stjohns.ca/en/building-development/resources/Planning-Reports/Envision-Development-Regulations.pdf

I certainly hope our elected members of council do the right thing and listen to the effected residents and reject this current request and ask the applicant to submit a more reasonable request which would be hours of operating no earlier than 8 a.m and no later than 9 p.m. (which was the previous approved time). Also a reduction in the number of days per week to something more reasonable and in line with other places of worship which is 2 - 3 days per week.

I have also added a petition signed by the residents I have spoken with. This clearly shows that the residents who do live in this area are not in favour of this application.

The members of council need to ask themselves, if this was requested on your street how would you feel. I don't think you would want increased traffic and noise during hours while you are sleeping.

If this request is approved I know it will lead to numerous calls to city hall and the police for complaints of noise and increased traffic.

Sincerely,



Type or Nature of Building	Range of Parking Spaces	
	Minimum	Maximum
Light Industrial	1 parking space for every 100 m ² of manufacturing area, provided this is not less than 3 parking spaces per tenant or establishment	1 parking space for every 20 m ² of Net Floor Area
Lodging House	1 parking space for every 2 rented rooms or suites used as a part of the Lodging House	1 parking space for every rented room or suite used as a part of the Lodging House
Long Term Care Facility/ Hospital	1 space for every 10 beds	1 space for every 5 beds
Lounge	1 parking space for every 10 m ² of Gross Floor Area	1 parking space for every 5 m ² of Gross Floor Area
Micro Unit Dwelling	No parking required	1 parking space for every 4 units
Office	1 parking space for every 50 m ² of Net Floor Area	1 parking space for every 20 m ² of Net Floor Area
Personal Care Home	1 space for every 5 Units	1 space for every 2 Units
Place of Amusement Place of Assembly	1 parking space for every 15 m ² of Gross Floor Area	1 parking space for every 5 m ² of Gross Floor Area
Place of Worship	1 parking space for every 15 m ² of Gross Floor Area	1 parking space for every 5 m ² of Gross Floor Area

From:
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 9:00 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Application -47 Smith avenue

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Hi,

My name is and I currently reside at

I want to confirm that I am entirely comfortable with the proposed hours of operation from 4 am to 12 midnight. As a practicing Muslim, I do not foresee any issues related to noise pollution or any other problems resulting from the new hours

Best regards,

Trairen Gnare	
From: Sent: To: Subject:	Tuesday, November 21, 2023 8:44 AM CityClerk 47 Smith Avenue: Application for Change of Hours of Place of Worship
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code unless you recog	EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or action a QR gnize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you are suspicious e Report a Phish button to report it.
To: Office of the City Clerk	
I am the owner of the propert	y located at This property is located 47 Smith Avenue.
	on to change the hours of use of the place of worship located at 47 Smith Avenue to 4 a.m to continue the existing hours of use (8 a.m. to 9 p.m.) for the new owners.
My concern relates to the noi	se that will occur during the early morning hours which will be disturbing to the occupants of
Yours truly,	

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 2:30 PM

To: CityClerk
Subject: 47 SmithAve

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To whom it may concern,

My name is ______. I have many objections to this proposal going ahead.

- 1.We have many professionals who live on the street and the 4am opening does not sit well. There will be increase noise, car doors banging etc.
- 2. The hours will br from 4am to 12 midnight. Again increase in noise. An increase in traffic.
- 3. No church is open 7 days a week. Again more noise and traffic.
- 4 .We have many seniors in our neighborhood who dont need this worry.
- 5.1 still think it will be a shelter of some sort.
- 6 There are other places of worship for islams but they dont open at 4.
- 7. You will have more population hanging out there.
- 8.It is also a safety concern as it may bring unwanted people into neighbourhood.

SO THEREFORE I 100% OPPOSE this.

Looking forward to your reply

Thank you

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 12:16 PM

To: CityClerk **Subject:** 47 Smith Ave

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Hello there,

My name is and I live at a live at . I am really concerned about the proposed changes.

1. What is the intended use for the building?

2.why does it need to open at 4am?

3.why extended hours from 4 am -9pm

It seems that this building will not be used as a place of worship. It seems that it will be a shelter or something of the sort. On our street we have mostly professionals and seniors. What other church opens at 4 am and remains open for 7 days a week. We are a quiet neighborhood and we need no such building in the middle of our street. The crime rate will increase, we will see more drug use, increased noise especially at 4 am. If you could clarify some of these issues this would be great. Look forward to your reply.

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Monday, November 6, 2023 9:29 PM CityClerk (EXT) Supporting to the motion so city allow the operation hours of operation for the mosque
[You don't often get email from https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSende	Learn why this is important at ridentification]
Hi,	
	g Al Falah Islamic centre, 47 smith Avenue to operate hour of worship between 4 am to able to pray 5 times our mandatory prayers.
Thanks	
Sent from my iPhone	

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 2:52 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) Supporting Application

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I'm agree with the proposed application to change the hours of use for a Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue.

that has been submitted by Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA)

Please consider the proposing revised hours of 4 a.m. - 12 a.m (midnight), seven (7) days per week for ritual and worship purpose.

Thank you so much

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 4:32 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Comment on 47 Smith Avenue Property

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Hi there,

As a resident of St. John's, I'd like to request that the application for change of hours at '47 Smith Avenue' is approved and that the permission is given to establish this facility as a place of worship.

The Muslim community of St. John's has been waiting eagerly for such a place that is fairly close to the university so that the students and community members leaving nearby can easily commute and perform their religious duties. We have already had one Mosque on Logy Bay road, which is fair bit away from the university, so it becomes difficult for everyone around especially students to commute there. However, there has never been any complains from the neighbours regarding that. Also as the muslim population has been growing, there is a dire need for another Mosque in the city and this will definitely help with that.

Please note that we realize its a residential area, but that will surely be on everyones mind when they visit and it will be made sure that every effort is made so that nobody around is disturbed by any means.

Also, even if the hours are changed, more often than not people will only come during certain time of the day depending on sunrise, sunset times. So there should be no concerns regarding that.

I hope that the application gets approved so that we can finally have another place of worship in the city for the growing muslim community of St. John's. As we are very excited for it and are really looking forward to this!

Thank you,

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 8:34 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) Hours of operation at 47 Smith avenue

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Learn why this is important

Dear sir/madam,

I am supporting the motion that the city of St. John's allow the hours of operation to be from Fajr to Isha, 4am to 12am at 47, Smith avenue for prayer.

Thank you,

From:

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 10:24 AM

CityClerk

To:

Subject: Application - 47 Smith Avenue

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. Learn why this is important

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Dear office of City Clerk,

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the Islamic Circle of North America to extend the hours of use for their Place of Worship at 47 Smith Avenue. Allowing for these extended hours will serve to enhance the spiritual, cultural, and social fabric of our community by providing a welcoming space for worship and reflection at times most conducive to the Islamic faith.

Allowing for these extended hours will serve to enhance the spiritual, cultural, and social fabric of our community by providing a welcoming space for worship and reflection at times most conducive to the Islamic faith

Regards,

From:	
Sent:	Tuesday, November 7, 2023 9:15 AM

To: CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) 47 Smith Avenue - A Change of Non-Conforming Use application

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Comment: The proposed address will be the only Muslim Church on this part of the city. To properly facilitate regular prayers, it is necessary that the operating hours are in alignment with Muslim prayer times. Although the time of Muslim prayers vary with season, to cover all seasons, the proposed time of operation 4am-12am is necessary.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 1:16 PM

To: CityClerk

Subject: Application - 47 Smith Avenue

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Learn why this is important

Respected Council,

I am requesting the proposed revised hours of 4 a.m. - 12 a.m (midnight), seven (7) days per week for the place of worship allotted for us and our families, which would be extended from the currently approved hours of 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. The floor area will remain at approximately 485m2. On-site parking is also provided.

Please feel free to inquire any further information required. Thank you.

Kindest regards,

From:	
Sent:	Sunday, November 5, 2023 9:23 PM

To: Sunday, i

Subject: (EXT) Comment on Change of Hours- Place of Worship

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Hello,

I'm a resident of St John's, Newfoundland and I'm in support of the new change of the hours revision from 4 am to 12 pm on 47 Smith Avenue.

Best Regards,

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Thursday, November 9, 2023 1:46 PM CityClerk Application - 47 Smith Avenue	
You don't often get email fr	rom Learn why this is important	
code unless you reco	n EXTERNAL email. Do not click on any link, open any attachments, or ognize the sender and have confirmed that the content is valid. If you ar the Report a Phish button to report it.	
	and my address is and lamic Circle of North America at 47 Smith Avenue regarding "revision of hours opprove the request to revise hours from 4am-12am (midnight) seven days a we	of use for a
Submitted for your kind cor	nsideration please.	
Best Regards,		

From:

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 8:35 AM

To:

CityClerk

Subject: (EXT) Application - 47 Smith Avenue

[You don't often get email from

. Learn why this is important at

https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Good morning,

I am emailing in support of the application for a change of operating times at 47 Smith Avenue.

I believe that to be a more inclusive city, we need to recognize the value and respect the norms of religions beyond Christianity, and that includes accepting that for some, worship happens at other times of day. This could also signal to immigrants that our city is accepting and a safe place for them to live and in light of ongoing global issues, this is very important.

Thanks and have a good day,