

Davenport, Peter

From: M&CP - Licensing
Sent: 23 December 2017 19:10
To: Aznar, Stephen; Blake, Steve; Breese, Robert; Butcher, Susan; Davenport, Peter; Hewitt, Andre; Minas, Aggie; Patel, Sangeeta
Subject: FW: Barbican Centre application - Beech Street Tunnel - 16 to 18 March 2018

From: John Rink
Sent: Saturday, December 23, 2017 7:09:25 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik
To: M&CP - Licensing
Cc: Stephen O'Hanlon
Subject: Barbican Centre application - Beech Street Tunnel - 16 to 18 March 2018

I am writing to object to this application on the grounds that it will result in public nuisance. The event is due to take place in the Beech Street Tunnel for over 7.5 hours on Saturday 17 March and 10.5 hours on Sunday 18 March, with up to 10 hours of sound checks and testing 'during normal noisy hours' on Friday 16 March, plus up to 7 more hours of sound checks/testing on the morning and early afternoon of Saturday 17 March (which are not 'normal noisy hours'). Although the applicants claim that they will work with local agencies and resident groups to ensure that 'recorded music playback causes minimal disturbance', the prolonged nature of this three-day event (lasting 18 hours for the event + up to 17 hours for checks/testing) means there will be public nuisance if **any** noise from the recorded music playback is heard outside the tunnel.

The applicants give no indication of the maximum decibel levels of the sound that will be generated or of the likely audibility of that sound outside the tunnel. Nor is there any evidence that precautionary checks have been made to date or potential auditory impact assessed. Thus, the reference to 'minimal disturbance' is meaningless unless the applicants can confirm that **no noise** will be audible outside the tunnel. That is highly improbable, however: the Beech Street tunnel is a highly resonant open space with potential sound egress not only at the two ends but also at the entrance to Golden Lane, at the west end of Ben Jonson House, and along the forecourt at Lauderdale House. Local residents live adjacent to each of these areas. I live in a flat overlooking the east end of the tunnel, and judging from the experience of roadworks, traffic etc., I believe that any amplified recorded music played in the tunnel will be clearly audible, hence this objection. The hundreds of other Barbican residents living in flats exposed to the tunnel will also be affected.

Thus, the application should not be approved as it does not give details of any safeguards likely to prevent nuisance, while the event will be much too long to be simply ignored when/if noise egress does occur.

Yours sincerely,

Dr J S Rink

