

## Hildebrandt, Tina

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 7:44 PM  
**To:** Akua Schatz  
**Subject:** RE: Laneway Housing - Public Hearing

Thank you for your comments.

All public comments submitted for the public hearing that are received not more than 15 minutes after the close of the speakers list for that public hearing will be distributed to members of Council for their consideration. The public comments must include the name of the writer.

In addition, these public comments will also be posted on the City's website ([http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/councilmeetings/meeting\\_schedule.cfm](http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/councilmeetings/meeting_schedule.cfm)). Please note that your contact information will be removed from the comments, with the exception of the writer's name. Comments received after the start of the public hearing should not exceed 1500 words.

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For more information regarding Public Hearings, please visit [vancouver.ca/publichearings](http://vancouver.ca/publichearings).

Thank you.

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*City Clerk's Office*  
*City of Vancouver*  
*Phone: 604-829-4238*  
*Email: [publichearing@vancouver.ca](mailto:publichearing@vancouver.ca)*  
*Website: [vancouver.ca/publichearings](http://vancouver.ca/publichearings)*

**From:** Akua Schatz s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 7:27 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Laneway Housing - Public Hearing

Dear Mayor and Council,

I would like to express my support for the laneway housing program as well as its planned expansion and modification.

My husband and I built a laneway house in the backyard of my inlaws home two years ago. Laneway housing allowed us to stay in the city we love and provide the support needed to aging parents. We've since expanded our family, adding a baby boy to the household. Having grandparents 20 feet away has made the transition into motherhood infinitely easier and far richer for my son. The modifications you have made to the laneway housing may facilitate more arrangements like ours in the future and for that I applaud your commitment to gentle densification.

I have recently completed my Masters of Urban Studies where I focused on attitudes towards laneway housing in Dunbar. The findings of my research suggest that while an anti-densification view is prevalent (and nurtured by the local residents associations) there are also several signs that residents are cautiously optimistic about the housing form. In order to facilitate further densification of the westside of Vancouver I would suggest that the

City build on its consultation approaches by incorporating an emotive communication strategy that captures the impact of a denser housing form (such as LWH) on a community.

While facts, maps, diagrams, and charettes all play an important role in conveying information on a housing type to residents, stories have the ability to connect to people at the emotional level. Rather than articulating how a new development will look in a neighbourhood, stories allow the recipient to connect with the potential and possibility of a development initiative. Nearly four years have passed since laneway housing first became legal in Vancouver. During that time people from all walks of life have built and lived in the homes. A public engagement campaign seeded with the personal anecdotes of the homeowners and their neighbours would help bring to life the challenges and issues being faced by everyday Vancouver residents and likely further the city's strategic orientation toward densification.

Thank you for continuing to advocate for future residents in the face of vocal opposition.

Akua Schatz

## Hildebrandt, Tina

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 7:40 PM  
**To:** Cate McNeely Buss  
**Subject:** RE: Laneway

Thank you for your comments.

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Cate McNeely Buss s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 6:41 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Laneway

Dear Mayor Robertson and Council:

I am very pleased with the innovation you have shown by providing alternative housing models. I am strongly in favour of the laneway program and I hope that you keep the existing model in place and also add the expanded one story model. We are hoping to build one for extended family. Thank you for your consideration.

Cate McNeely Buss and Family