

Castro, Maria

From: hailey dermott "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: 100% Social Housing

Hi there,

I am a Vancouver community member and ally for all marginalized individuals and communities. I am currently a student and have spent time as a support worker, community garden coordinator, community kitchen coordinator and volunteer in the Downtown East Side. I have seen first hand the effects of gentrification of the neighbourhood.

What does it mean when our government chooses to neglect an entire community of people? What message does that send members of our community and the entire world who is likely considering us hypocritical fools for accepting the title of most liveable city when affordable housing no longer exists and our brothers and sisters are dying on the streets.

It is time we stop making false and empty promises and begin to act and follow through with our promises. We need to remember equity.

I am writing you in solidarity with those you are chasing to ignore- We will accept nothing less than 100% welfare and pension rate social housing at W 58th Hasting.

Don't let our community down.

Hailey Dermott

Castro, Maria

From: Wendee Lang "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 3:48 PM
To: Public Hearing
Cc: "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"
Subject: Public Comment: 58 W Hastings Rezoning Application

To Whom It May Concern,

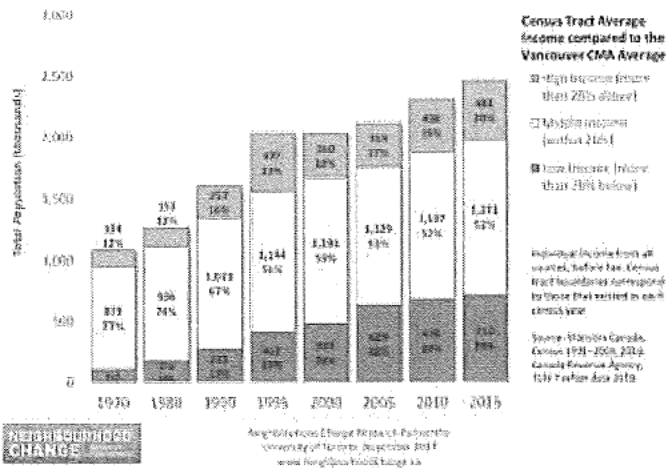
This email is in response to the rezoning of 58 W Hastings and the proposed development at this location. I urge council to dismiss this rezoning request for the following reasons:

1. This neighbourhood is in desperate need of affordable, welfare-rate housing, and this rezoning should not move forward until the development at 58 W Hastings can guarantee that 100% of built units will be rented at welfare-shelter rates. This is consistent with the pledge signed by Mayor Robinson on August 2, 2016, guaranteeing the site would be developed into a low-rise tower consisting solely of units rented at this rate.
2. This type of mixed-use development will inevitably result in the displacement of low income Downtown East Side (DTES) residents, as well as their exclusion from retail outlets (floors 1-3) that will only be geared towards highest income residents. As such, if approved, it will be a catalyst to further gentrification in one of the only areas in Vancouver supportive of low income citizens.

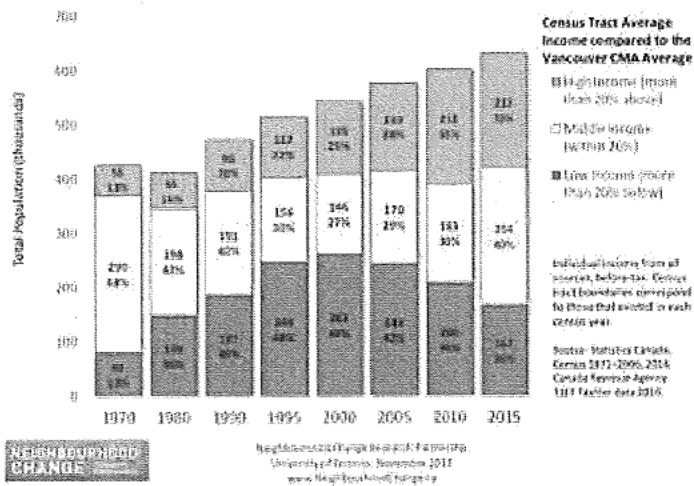
The reality is that units deemed "affordable" by the City's definition are simply not attainable for DTES residents forced to support themselves on the sparse resources offered by welfare and disability payments, neither of which have kept pace with inflation.

As the percentage of low income residents in Vancouver continues to decline, growth in low income residents within the greater Vancouver area is a clear sign of displacement, exacerbated by developments such as that proposed at 58 W Hastings (see graphs below).

Neighbourhood Income & Population Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area, 1970-2015



Neighbourhood Income & Population City of Vancouver, 1970-2015



I urge you to deny this rezoning application until a development containing 100% social welfare-rate rental housing can be guaranteed.

Sincerely,
Wendee Lang

--
Wendee Lang, BA
Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP) Candidate (2019)
UBC School of Community and Regional Planning
"s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"