Dear Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of 58 West Hastings on Tuesday, January 16th. I am firmly in support of this project. My family has many fond memories of Chinatown and feel this is a worthy project for the good of the neighbourhood.

I urge you to approve this project because of the following points:

- 1. Increasing much-needed affordable housing supply (231 units in total)
- 2. Inclusive housing, diverse unit mix; integrating individuals of diverse socioeconomic backgrounds are aspirations of a healthy society
- 3. Achieving goals in **adopted** policies such as the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy
- 4. VCH Integrated Health Centre will deliver effective care outcomes and services in the DTES (50,000 sq integrated health facility)
- 5. Building design and appropriateness for the neighbourhood
- 6. Increasing employment opportunities through the community-oriented retail spaces
- 7. VCF's reputation as a community non-profit leader

I believe this project will go a long way to try to ease the housing shortage in the Chinatown neighbourhood. We must begin by approving these projects as it ticks many of the boxes that will help revitalize the Chinatown community.

I implore you to approve this project and help create lasting solutions to real concerns in this neighbourhood.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Regards,

Bruce Cheng Concerned Citizen

Dear Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of 58 West Hastings on Tuesday, January 15th. I am firmly in support of this project. I work in the neighbourhood and I am a concerned citizen.

I urge you to approve this project because of the following reasons:

- There would be an increased supply of much-needed affordable housing (231 units in total). This would address the current housing shortage, supported by Vancouver Affordable Housing Agency (VAHA) and BC Housing.
- 2. To achieve goals in **adopted** policies such as the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy. This provides one solution to homelessness people are more likely to be successful when they have shelter and a "home".
- 3. Vancouver Costal Health Integrated Health Centre will deliver effective care outcomes and services in the DTES (50,000 sq integrated health facility). Health and safety will be improved at this site and in the neighbourhood.
- 4. Not only does the building design complements the existing character of the neighbourhood, the proposed amenities are qualified and exceed expectations.
- 5. There would be increased employment opportunities through the community-oriented retail spaces.
- 6. Vancouver Chinatown Foundation is committed to building and providing housing for inclusive demographics including low-income residents, seniors, and for those struggling to make ends meet.

I implore you to approve this project and help create lasting solutions to real concerns in this neighbourhood.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Iris Chen

"s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Burke, Teresita

From:

Susan Chow "s.22(1) Per

Sent:

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 2:10 AM

To:

Public Hearing; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Affleck, George; Ball, Elizabeth;

Bremner, Hector; Carr, Adriane; De Genova, Melissa; Deal, Heather; Jang, Kerry; Louie,

Raymond; Reimer, Andrea; Stevenson, Tim

Subject:

PUBLIC HEARING - 58 WEST HASTINGS

16 January 2018

Dear Councillors,

RE: 58 West Hastings, Vancouver, BC

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of <u>58 West Hastings</u> on Tuesday, January 15th. I am firmly in support of this project and believe that the projects intentions are the beginning steps that we need to see a revitalized Chinatown and Downtown Eastside neighborhood.

My family immigrated to Vancouver from Trinidad in 1969. Vancouver's Chinatown was an integral part of our assimilation and connection with our new country and chosen home. With no family in Vancouver and a simple dream to build a better life for their children, my parents found support, community and neighborhood in Chinatown and its surrounding environs. My siblings and are were enrolled in Chinese school so that we would hopefully retain a little bit of our culture and ethnic roots. We met others families with similar stories and aspirations. Our memories of this time include going to the Army and Navy for back to school needs, shopping at the Woodward's Food Floor for the jars of crunchy peanut butter (which is still available today at Nesters), or a weekend outing to the Shaw Theatre on Hastings Street or Golden Harvest on Main Street to catch some Chinese cinema with our grandmother. These are all memories of my childhood when Vancouver's Downtown Eastside was a live-able and thriving community of diverse cultures, socioeconomic levels and people, young and old. It saddens me that this area and neighborhood has changed and deteriorated so much I do not feel safe in bringing my own children to explore the area.

I think that the proposed project for <u>58 West Hastings</u> is an important first step in revitalization of the neighborhood. The **proposed inclusive housing**, **that provides a mix of affordable**, **social and market housing is a wonderful example of tolerance** and getting along with others – some of who may be like ourselves and others who may be different but still valid members of our community. This mix of housing should be a shining example of collaboration and cooperation. I think this ideal is sorely lacking in some of our community projects.

There may be some community activists demanding that this entire project be built to accommodate welfare rates – though noble in spirit, this is impractical and inevitably short-sighted and unsustainable. If one only wants to live in a world alongside those just like ourselves, there would be little opportunity for improvement or learning. Exposure to others, different from ourselves is what provides opportunity to learn, to share, to become a community. This may provide opportunity to inspire or be inspired; to be better or help a neighbor get better – this is how we support a healthy society and a better world. I cannot see this happening in homogenous situation where isolation, segregation and ghetto-ization is proposed.

Moreover, the proposed *Integrated Health Facility run by Vancouver Coastal Health* will be phenomenal addition to the neighborhood. This community needs health support services, accessible and as conveniently located as possible. An integrated facility where healthcare workers can collaboratively support patient needs in one location would inevitably yield a more streamlined, efficient system for patients, doctors and auxiliary support workers. Just imagine how much easier it would be for a patient to be sent down the hall instead of across town by bus. My husband is a healthcare professional and sees patients from the Downtown

Eastside. We know firsthand that for a patient to get a referral, get on a bus to cross town and make their appointment is sometimes a huge achievement. Quite often, the ball gets dropped somewhere along the way and something happens that prevents them from completing the remaining steps required to get the health service they need. An integrated facility as proposed by <u>58 West Hastings</u> will make a significant, positive difference for this neighborhood.

There are a lot of challenges facing our City and its citizens. There is not one answer or solution that will fix all but the 58 West Hastings project as proposed by the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation is a real first step in addressing some of the issues. As proposed, we get 231 new social housing units; we get a 50,000 square foot Integrated Health Facility; we get street level community retail and we get a development that fits into the neighborhood and adds a bright positive and vibe to an area that needs to be refreshed; an area that needs a bit of attention; an area that needs a bit of care. To date, the buildings have been left to further deteriorate. There is no pride at the street level. This proposal is going to breathe some new life into the area and it's going to generate some much needed pride at the street level. For me, the 58 West Hastings proposal says to the community that we care and we are going to put our money behind this by building something that they can be proud of; building something that helps all in the community. It is really a project about "we" and not "them".

A Vancouver that accentuates the "we" in community is one that I want to be a part of.

I respectfully implore you to approve the <u>58 West Hastings</u> project as proposed. What are we waiting for?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Victoria Susan Chow

's.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Dear Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of 58 West Hastings on Tuesday, January 15th. I am firmly in support of this project. I own properties in the area and have spent a lot of time throughout my life, shopping in the area at Army and Navy, Woodward's and Chinatown. I am finding it more and more difficult to visit due to the changing demographics of the neighborhood and would encourage you to approve this project due to:

- 1. Increasing much-needed affordable housing supply (231 units in total)
- 2. Inclusive housing, diverse unit mix; integrating individuals of diverse socioeconomic backgrounds are aspirations of a healthy society
- 3. Achieving goals in adopted policies such as the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy
- 4. VCH Integrated Health Centre will deliver effective care outcomes and services in the DTES (50,000 sq integrated health facility)
- 5. Building design and appropriateness for the neighbourhood
- 6. Increasing employment opportunities through the community-oriented retail spaces
- 7. VCF's reputation as a community non-profit leader

I implore you to approve this project and help create lasting solutions to real concerns in this neighbourhood.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Dérek Lee

"s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Burke, Teresita

From:

Ratner, Shauna [PH] < "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential

Sent:

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:18 AM

To:

Public Hearing; Mayor and Council Correspondence

Subject:

58 W Hastings

Attachments: 58 E Hastings.doc

To whom it may concern,

Please see attached letter for 58 W Hastings.

Dear Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of 58 West Hastings on Tuesday, January 15th. I am firmly in support of this project. I am a concerned citizen and feel the neighbourhood needs to keep its cultural integrity.

I urge you to approve this project because it addresses the following points.

- 1. Increasing much-needed affordable housing supply (231 units in total)
- 2. Inclusive housing, diverse unit mix; integrating individuals of diverse socioeconomic backgrounds are aspirations of a healthy society
- 3. Achieving goals in **adopted** policies such as the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy
- 4. VCH Integrated Health Centre will deliver effective care outcomes and services in the DTES (50,000 sq integrated health facility). This is especially important with the upcoming relocation of St. Paul's Hospital.
- 5. Building design and appropriateness for the neighbourhood
- 6. Increasing employment opportunities through the community-oriented retail spaces

It is important to address the current affordable housing shortage that is on the rise. This project advocates for just that, while maintaining the cultural importance and character of the neighbourhood. With the upcoming relocation of St. Paul's Hospital and the potential loss of an ER in the downtown core, a health care facility in the neighbourhood would greatly access the DTES and improve the delivery of health care to those in need.

I implore you to approve this project and help create lasting solutions to real concerns in this neighbourhood.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Healthcare Worker St. Paul's Hospital

Dear Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of 58 West Hastings on Tuesday set for later today. I strongly support and endorse this highly worthwhile project.

I spent more than ten years working in the Downtown Eastside as a member of the Vancouver Police Department, including my last position there as the District Two Commander prior to my promotion to Deputy Chief Constable. I saw the opportunity and potential for the Downtown Eastside then and my interest in and passion for this community remains undiminished today.

When I was asked to join the Board of 58 West Hastings I seized the opportunity because I believe in the Downtown Eastside and I believe in this initiative. The reasons why I am committed to this initiative and I am asking for your support include:

- 1. This project increases the critically needed affordable housing supply for people in the DTES by 231 units.
- 2. This project reflects careful thought and planning and would provide inclusive housing for individuals with diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.
- 3. It will help achieve goals in policies such as the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy
- 4. The VCH Integrated Health Centre has the potential of significantly improving effective care outcomes and services in the DTES.
- 5. This location has been underutilized for years. This project makes good and appropriate use of the site and will improve the overall well-being and health of this neighbourhood.
- 6. This project will improve the lives of the 231 families that call it home!

Please approve this worthwhile project and support our contribution to addressing one of the critical needs of this community. I believe in the potential of the DTES and that by working together we can make a real difference in improving the health and well being of this community. We must move forward though in addressing the urgent and acute needs of this community.

Thank you for your dedication and support.

Bob Rolls



Mayor and Council City of Vancouver

Re: Rezoning Application - 58 East Hastings Street

Dear Mayor Robertson and Members of Council:

I am writing on behalf of the YWCA of Metro Vancouver in support of the proposal by the Chinatown Foundation, on behalf of the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Coastal Health, to develop a 10-story mixed-use building with commercial and medical offices and 231 units of social and non-market housing. We are pleased to support the rezoning of the property at 58 East Hastings from DD (Downtown District) to CD-1 (Comprehensive Development District).

The proposed project will fill an important gap in the continuum of housing options identified in the City's Housing Strategy. It will provide a range of much-needed rental accommodation at affordable rents, reflecting the diverse housing needs of the local community. As well, the health centre proposed to be included in the project will provide essential health services at a convenient location for community residents. It is our view that the integration of health and housing services reflects best practice in the delivery of community services; it will help to optimize health outcomes and create the conditions for residents to contribute fully to the social, economic and cultural life of our City.

The YWCA Metro Vancouver has a 40-year history of serving the Chinatown/Downtown Eastside/Strathcona communities through YWCA Crabtree Corner. More recently, we have been delighted to work with the Vancouver Public Library to develop the néca?mat ct Strathcona Branch and YWCA Cause We Care House, providing 21 units of affordable housing and services for women and children. We look forward to working in collaboration with our colleagues at the Chinatown Foundation to respond to community housing needs.

We are pleased to encourage City Council to support the rezoning application for the proposed health services centre and non-market housing project at 58 East Hastings Street.

Sincerely,

's.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Janet Austin CEO, YWCA Metro Vancouver





Dear Mayor & Council:

Re: Public Hearing on January 16. 2018 Agenda Item #2 Rezoning of 58 West Hastings Street from DD to CD1

I am writing in support of the Recommendation of the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability for the rezoning of 58 West Hastings, a responsible and inspired mixed-use project.

As a 70-year resident of Vancouver, I have a strong interest in the need of affordable housing and health services for the people of Chinatown and Downtown Eastside. I am also passionate about the revitalization of our historic downtown core and Chinatown. Growing up in the Strathcona home where my brother and his family currently reside, I was fortunate to enjoy Chinatown and this section of East and West Hastings as my shopping district and playground.

50 years ago, I stood with my family and neighbours to stop the demolition of Strathcona, Chinatown, swaths of the Downtown and waterfront for the north-south and east-west freeways and "urban renewal". More recently, I worked for the City to develop and operate housing and services for the core needy including the DTES. As Regional Director for Health Canada, I helped implement the tri-level Vancouver Agreement to address DTES issues and directed its economic development agency "Building Opportunities with Business Inner City Society". Today, I continue to contribute to initiatives like the Chinatown Working Group for North East False Creek and the Vancouver Chinatown Revitalization Committee.

I support and urge you to approve this much-needed and innovative project for many reasons including the following highlights:

- 1. This is not just another condo project but addresses significant needs of area residents, seniors and businesses
- It is socially responsible in providing 100% social housing (231 units) with 1/3 (76 units) designated for the shelter component of Income Assistance, 1/3 HILS and 1/3 affordable market rental
- 3. It is environmentally sustainable to LEED Gold Standard and socially sustainable in its mixed units and uses
- 4. It increases the much-needed affordable housing supply (231 units in total)

- 5. It provides a unit mix with micro units, studios and 1 and 2 bedroom family units plus a small children's play area good access to outdoor spaces, balconies and other amenities like laundry facilities on every floor
- 6. It is consistent with the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy and contributes to their goals
- 7. The Vancouver Coastal Health Integrated Health Centre should expedite integrated healthcare services and improved outcomes in the DTES (50,000 sf health facility)
- 8. Through building design, an appropriate fit and character are created for the neighbourhood, despite the size of the building
- 9. The community-oriented small retail spaces should provide opportunities for local businesses and employment for local residents.

This is a flagship project for the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation who is seeking to establish its reputation as a community non-profit leader. Project approval will give the VCF an opportunity to demonstrate its capacity to deliver a quality project for the people of Vancouver but in particular for Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside.

It would be responsible for Council to approve the recommendation of the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability; thus enabling the development of a project that will address serious concerns within this community.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address or telephone numbers provided.

Sincerely,

Shirley Chan



January 15th, 2018

Dear Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Public Rezoning Hearing of 58 West Hastings on Tuesday, January 16th. The Bloom Group, as a non profit working in the neighborhood, and providing affordable housing options in the city, is in support of this project.

Given our experience with implementing a similar model of affordable housing at the renovated Remand Center, we support this approach to mixed housing. We believe it helps to create community inclusion, housing and project stability, and supports diversity and integration. This project well aligned with the goals of the Downtown Eastside Plan and the Housing and Homelessness Strategy.

The Vancouver Coastal Health's (VCH) integrated health facility could drastically improve the delivery of healthcare services to the Downtown Eastside by providing integrated services to this key neighbourhood. It is a much needed resource for the community with currently a high demand on health services.

The site of this building has underutilized. Revitalization through this project will positively impact community safety, and increase opportunities for community engagement. The design of the building offers much needed amenity space and is appropriate and sensitive to the neighborhood.

The Vancouver Chinatown Foundation is a leader in the community with positive history and relationships sensitive to the needs and aspirations of the neighborhood.

Approval of this project will help create lasting solutions to real concerns in this neighbourhood.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Trudi Shymka \
Director of Services
The Bloom Group

's.22(1) Personal and Confidential