

## Castro, Maria

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**From:** Marina Matei "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 3:29 PM  
**To:** Public Hearing  
**Subject:** Proposed redevelopment of 1500 West Georgia Street

To Mayor & Council;

I was dismayed to learn that the discussion of this redevelopment proposal has been postponed until January 18th; as I will not be able to attend on the revised date, I am writing to add my voice to the many you have already heard raised in objection to the proposed redevelopment of 1500 West Georgia Street. I object for all of the reasons my neighbours have already expressed, and must admit that it strikes me not only as surreal, but frankly as bordering on the obscene, that we must go to these lengths to avoid having a 350 foot wall built a mere 80 feet away from our front door.

Should you allow this project to proceed in its current form, you will be robbing the residents of Albemni Street of an asset whose value goes beyond the monetary; you will be rendering null and void most of the reasons we chose to live here in the first place and for which we knowingly and willingly paid a premium to enjoy: reasons such as light, privacy, calm, a sense of space, vistas, and the ability to find refuge from the frenetic pace of life in a home that allows us to revel in the spectacular beauty of our city. For someone such as myself, who suffers from seasonal depression, light was critical in my choice of where to live, light that I will lose should this massive, intrusive, and architecturally ghastly block be built. I cannot imagine that it would be difficult for you, as municipal leaders who have stressed the importance of liveability and environmental consciousness, to understand that, to a great many of us, our "blue space" is as critical as our "green space", our bike lanes and our heritage buildings.

Moreover, should you allow this project to proceed, you will be destroying the sense of trust and community that are so critical to a healthy social environment and the fruitful and healthy evolution of neighborhoods and cities.

That developers would unscrupulously pursue projects for the sake of profit and not care (as was clearly evident at the open house meeting many of us attended) about the "collateral damage", i.e. the negative impact and consequences to the existing community/residents, does not surprise me. Indeed, I would expect them to push and test boundaries much like spoiled two year olds; however, I **don't** expect them to be allowed to get away with it thanks to the higher standards of collective intelligence, thoughtfulness, ethics and vision within my municipal leadership. I hope my faith in you has not been misplaced.

Sincerely,

Marina Matei

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