

Burke, Teresita

From: . Siddoo "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 9:12 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: Project ref name: York House School -4176 Alexandra Street

I am a resident of the neighbourhood (I live "s.22(1) Personal" blocks from York House School), and I am in support of the referenced project.

I appreciate the manner in which the Applicant has proposed this rezoning with respect to overall design, transportation and sustainability.

I would like to thank the Council and City Staff for their time.

Sincerely,

Raj Siddoo

Resident

"s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Burke, Teresita

From: Herbert Chan <[REDACTED] s.22(1) Personal and Confidential">
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 10:44 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: York House School - 4176 Alexandra Street

Dear Sirs & Mesdames,

Our family are long-time supporters of York House School and I am now a parent of a kindergarten student. I am in support of the proposed rezoning application as it will provide the school the opportunity to properly update their facilities while respecting the character of the neighbourhood and minimizing impact on adjacent properties.

Sincerely,

Herbert Chan

[REDACTED] s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Burke, Teresita

From: Connie Chan "s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 10:46 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: Proposal for York House School - 4176 Alexandra Street

Dear Sirs/ Mesdames:

I am writing in respect of the rezoning application submitted by York House School, which is scheduled to be considered in a public meeting on January 16, 2018.

I am an alumna of York House School and am also parent of a kindergarten student. Since I started attending York House, in spite of the many changes to the City of Vancouver and surrounding region within the last four decades, the number of students attending York House School has remained generally the same. Over the same period of time, the number of applicants has steadily grown.

I support of the rezoning application as it will allow for a modest increase in the student body, and allow for the school to update its facilities and course offerings to support the demands of a 21st century education in a manner that is respectful and consistent with the character of the its neighbourhood.

Sincerely,
Connie Chan

"s.22(1) Personal and Confidential"

Burke, Teresita

From: Alan Walford s.22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:31 AM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: In support of rezoning at York House School - 4176 Alexandra Street

Dear Vancouver City Council,

I support the rezoning application by York House School at 4175 Alexandra.

My family has lived in Vancouver since Expo 86. We call Vancouver our home and love the city. I had a daughter in York House School for many years. My daughter is now in 2nd year at University of Toronto studying mathematics. She tells me she loves Vancouver too and wants to come back!

Vancouver boasts a great school system of both public and independent schools. Both school types offer something and draw people to Vancouver. Often there is talk of some independent schools being just for the 'rich'. There are wealthy families at York House School, but I was always happy to see the diversity at the school. There were families where both parents worked very hard to put their daughter through. York House also has a great scholarship program. The school has an amazing community feel, and it is a very important part of the greater Vancouver community.

Larger Student Body

There is one small disadvantage of a small school though, and that is the number of courses and programs that can be offered. My daughter was not able to take an accounting course, or psychology, etc. because the class size would have been too small. A increase to the student body size could help with this and allow the school to offer more programs like the bigger schools do.

Traffic and Parking

There is a valid concern of increased traffic and parking issues with an increased study body size. It does not help that there are three schools within a two-block radius! The schools have been there for many years. One thing that always really impressed me about the school and the admin staff was how truly caring they were about neighbours and traffic issues. Not lip service either. Often, you'd see the Head of School or Deputy Head of School out on the street in the cold and rain ensuring that parents were dropping off according to the published rules. The school worked with the other 2 schools to try to alleviate some of the strain on the neighbourhood. As well, the school greatly improved traffic flow when they worked with City Engineering to add the lay-bys to King Edward in the last project. I am confident they can improve it again with careful consideration and planning.

York House School is a great part of the Vancouver city landscape. The changing modern world requires new programs and methods to help our children meet these challenges. I think this rezoning will help York House School work towards these goals.

Best regards,

Alan Walford

s.22(1) Personal and Confidential

To whom it may concern,

My name is Megan Swaffield and I'm a grade 12 student at York House School. I came to York House in grade 8 and have been actively involved in the athletics program.

I have written this letter to share with you, from a student's perspective, the benefits the 2030 plan will have on student life. There are three things I'd like to touch on.

1. The scheduling issues we currently face,
2. The limits placed on our athletics program due to lack of space,
3. And the athletic and academic benefits of increasing admission, even marginally.

First of all, we currently only have one gymnasium for 600 students from ages 5-18. This leads to lots of scheduling conflicts. For certain students, this forces them to remain at school for up to 13 hours in one day. For instance, my friend Kristen is on the senior basketball team, and their practices usually start at 6:30 and run until 8. Kristen also volunteers to help coach the grade 6 basketball team, whose practices begin at 7:00 o'clock in the morning. As a result, Kristen can be at school from 7am to 8pm some days, leaving little time for homework, sleeping and eating, or exploring other interests she has. By increasing the gym space we have, the grade 6 team could practice right after school, and the varsity practice could be moved earlier in the day. For Kristen this could mean she only has to be at school for a more reasonable maximum of 8 and a half hours a day.

Secondly, the athletic program is limited by the physical constraints of a "too small" gymnasium. With larger facilities, York House will be able to host sports tournaments and games, something that happens very rarely as of right now. As an athlete, there's nothing really like playing at home. With the stands full of peers, family and faculty, there is a completely different vibe to the game. Not only does the support feel great for a player (home field advantage and what not), but I have found that it also fosters school spirit and the sense of community that we so emphasize at York House. Not only that, but we will hopefully also be able to share the space with the community be it through summer camps, hosting community sports events and more, which could inspire active living among a large number of people. This sharing of space would also be in tune with our school motto of "not for ourselves alone", so this would be an important contribution for us as a school.

And finally, I'd like to address the slight increase in students per grade that has been proposed. Continuing on with my "student athlete" train of thought, there are fantastic benefits to adding more students. For one thing, it would allow a greater variety of athletic programs to be offered, as well as possibly introduce intramural or lower level sports, for those who want to be active, have fun and develop skills in sport, but can't commit to the demands of a varsity team, or those who *almost* made the varsity team and would like to keep up their skills to try again the following year. I think that this would greatly encourage far more students to remain active and healthy, which I think is incredibly important. I, personally, would've loved to join intramurals in my time at York House. I stopped playing volleyball in favour of field hockey in grade 10, and as a result, I haven't really played since. It would've been very nice to have been able to keep playing at a lower level because I do love playing the sport, but because there were only really enough kids to field a single junior A team, the option simply wasn't there.

Not only would the marginal increase of student intake benefit the athletic aspects of student life, it would also benefit the academic side. Much like the sports offered, the amount and variety of classes offered is largely dictated by student interest, and with fewer students,

fewer classes can run. I know that myself, as well as a few of my peers, love the idea of a home economics class, or a financial literacy class, or any other classes that suit a persons passions, but seeing as they need at least 5 students to run, and there simply aren't enough people who can fit it into their timetables, introducing new courses is difficult.

Overall, I believe in the 2030 plan and its ability to vastly improve what I already love most about York House; the athletic program, as well as diversify our academics.

Thank you,

Megan Swaffield