

## Hildebrandt, Tina

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**From:** Anita Parkinson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 2:30 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Public Hearing  
**Subject:** Input to Public Hearing re Marine Gardens site. November 24, 2015

s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential

I am writing to support the idea of investigating the option to temporarily locate the daycare slated for the Marine Gardens site on the Laurier Annex School Site.

Laurier Annex is a K-4 school located a couple of blocks from the Marine Gardens site. Over the past few years the school has experienced declining enrollment partially due to families moving out to make way for the new development in the area. The VSB knows the area population will grow soon, so has planned for the school to stay open, and potentially grow to a K-7. In the interim, the declining enrollment has resulted a loss of much loved teachers and in empty classroom space. The school will also lose its after school care service in the fall.

A recent survey at the school showed about 15 kids looking for after school care in September and many families are also looking for daycare spaces for their younger children. Opening the proposed daycare at the annex, either in unused space or a portable, would help these families now, instead of having to wait the 4 years until the new sites are finished. The community is missing the services of the daycare previously located at the Marine Drive site which also provided some out of school care for the school in the past. I understand the looming rezoning was a contributor to the closing of the daycare, and the difficulty in finding someone to keep it operating.

Despite, or perhaps due to, being a small school, the Annex has a very supportive/active parent community. PAC meetings have about as many attendees as the main school with over twice the population and any requests for volunteers are always filled. It would be a great location for a daycare! Especially since the demand for daycare and out of school care is so great.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Anita Parkinson  
Marpole, Vancouver  
Parent at Laurier Annex