

Ludwig, Nicole

From: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 3:36 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: FW: 565 Great Northern Way

From: Rita s.22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 3:16 PM
To: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Cc: Virginia Bird; Tim Grant
Subject: Re: 565 Great Northern Way

Dear Mayor and Council,

We are following up on the recommendations that Dan Fass made to the Council regarding stormwater opportunities for the Great Northern Way Structure Plan in Feb 2014.

While we do not have a comment about the proposed height of the building at 565 Great Northern Way, we do have questions about the city's ability and responsibility to maximize the functional capacity of the site in terms of stormwater integration. The GNW campus is an opportunity for the City to foster the most water-friendly and resilient public place possible, one that deeply demonstrates the value of natural dynamics and biodiversity as articulated by Vancouver's Greenest City Action plan.

We would ask the city to identify what percentage of the rainwater runoff generated from the adjacent buildings and hardscape is being managed through (1) urban swales and wetlands, (2) other means of on-site stormwater management or (3) going directly to storm sewers. It's not clear whether the urban swales and wetlands are big enough to effectively hold or filter stormwater runoff. While there are no legally mandated goals for capturing stormwater runoff at this time, the development of the City's Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP) and Provincial guidelines will soon require that targets be met.

We think that achieving ambitious targets **now** would be a good demonstration of leadership from the Great Northern Way Campus and the City of Vancouver. And does the system have any capacity to handle additional flows from our neighbourhood in the future?

In closing, we are also hoping that the public realm will be named in a way that respectfully recognizes the significance of this place to the Coast Salish peoples, on whose unceded territories we are on, as acknowledged by the City in 2014. As both parks and plazas have colonial connotations and histories, we ask that Coast Salish knowledge keepers be consulted in a meaningful way as to the naming of these public places, as an act of reconciliation in keeping with the City's commitments to healing and improving the relationship between Indigenous peoples and newcomers.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,
Rita Wong

on behalf of the Rainway Group in Mount Pleasant