

Brenda M. Knight

s.22(1) Personal and Confidential

January 21, 2016

Re: Submission to City Hall Re: 1700 Block West 14 Avenue

As a 17 year resident of this neighborhood I am favour of increasing the development of affordable rental housing . The area under consideration is a mixed neighborhood which has a diverse spectrum of mobile and fixed residents with regard to age, abilities, culture, socioeconomic status etc.

This is a neighborhood that works effectively while integrating residents, the South Granville Park Lodge which is a senior's care facility, the Vancouver Lawn and Tennis Club, The Outdoor Lawn Bowling Club and two parks which serve all individuals and families and employees who work, live and visit the neighborhood. Nearby the church members at 15th and Burrard also uses the parks.

The area is bookended by Burrard Street and Granville Street which has become a destination for out of community shoppers, patrons of restaurants and theater as the more desired small businesses have been replaced by brand name retailers.

This community is a little gem that provides its residents with the choice of privacy and a choice of levels of relationships. The neighborhood works effectively in that it is safe, responsive and the residents are very ethically responsible.

However, we are already satiated with parked vehicles. In particular, West 14 is a narrow street with parking on both sides for residents, visitors, employees and shoppers. At most times it is full of parked vehicles and if one enters at each end of the street they have to back up to let one get by. As a cyclist I am in support of bike lanes. If this street becomes a bike lane, then that reduces the parking availability on the street.

It is my opinion that any building constructed on that street will require underground parking to meet the needs of residents and visitors. I am concerned that parking will overflow to the alley south of West 14 as happens in other areas in the community. There is a young children's playground within the park and many times I have observed that children are in the alley. We already have placed a sign at the park warning drivers of children playing as we have been concerned that a child will be seriously injured.

This little community has a rhythm and relationships that work. We may be able to integrate more people but we cannot integrate more required street parking. I support having a low height rental property but it must include visitor parking and resident parking for each unit.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to this issue.