

Hildebrandt, Tina

From: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: FW: 1495 West 8th Avenue

From: Craig Volker [s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential]
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Subject: 1495 West 8th Avenue

Dear Mayor Robertson and City Councillors,

My name is Craig Volker and my wife and I have lived in Vancouver for 30 years and for most of that time in the South Granville neighbourhood. I am writing to voice my support for the redevelopment of the Masonic Lodge at 1495 West 8th Avenue.

My reasons for supporting this redevelopment, in no particular order, are:

1. As Denise Ryan wrote in the January 22, 2017 edition of the Vancouver Sun, the current building is "... a windowless concrete bunker ...".
I cannot think of a better candidate for redevelopment than this neighbourhood "landmark".
2. My wife and I were evicted from our South Granville apartment of 7 years in 2011 because the owner wanted it for one of her children, and even then it was extremely difficult to find another home. Our city needs more rental housing, regardless of the neighbourhood.
3. We have been witness to the demolition of affordable rental housing in South Granville – to be replaced by condominiums, as well as renovictions. This speaks to the need for more affordable rental housing in our neighbourhood and our City.
4. The new building design is beautiful and will be built to LEED Gold Certification and will be an attractive addition to the locale. Every neighbourhood should have a local event space, which will remain in this project, as well.
5. Finally, the redevelopment will allow the VMCA to continue its good works as a philanthropic society and as a home to the BC Learning Centre for Children with Dyslexia.

To me this is a win-win proposal for my neighbourhood and for the City that is my home.

Thank you,

Craig Volker
s. 22(1) Personal and
Confidential

Hildebrandt, Tina

From: Ian Robertson s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 1:30 PM
To: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Public Hearing
Subject: Rezoning Application for 1495 W 8th Avenue (Vancouver Moaonic Centre)

Hello,
I support the proposed rezoning of 1495 W 8th Ave.

I live just down the street and think that people, of all incomes, would be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood.

I'm concerned about what some have written about the project ... the implication that anyone needing lower rent will 'not fit in with the neighbourhood', 'not be able to shop or contribute to the economy', the fake concern that the 'residents won't feel part of the community'.

Were these comments made specifically about a racial group, they would be wrong.
Were these comments made specifically about an age group, they would be wrong.
Were these comments made specifically about a certain sexual orientation, they would be wrong.
Were these comments made specifically about a gender group, they would be wrong.

And in being wrong, they would also be illegal if a policy was made which enforced the result of those comments.

Why is it that somehow they have any validity when used for a socioeconomic group?

In the USA there have been recent court cases that de-facto segregation by income (and prohibitions on social housing in areas it won't 'fit') have been declared specifically illegal, because they have byproduct effects to enable segregation which is inherently racial, gender, or orientation based, as the fact is that there is a societal wage difference which follows alongside racial, gender, or orientation differences.

There is no area which should be off limits to 'some people' which means this project should go ahead, it places people exactly where they should be - which is anywhere.

The current building is antisocial, replacing it with people will be by definition the opposite. This is a public good, and I support it.

I will endeavour to be at the public hearing tonight.

Regards,
-Ian

Ian Robertson
s. 22(1) Personal and
Confidential
Vancouver BC

Hildebrandt, Tina

From: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 9:34 AM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: FW: Vancouver Masonic Centre (1495 West 8 Ave) public hearing support

-----Original Message-----

From: Joshua [REDACTED] s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2017 11:00 PM
To: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Subject: Vancouver Masonic Centre (1495 West 8 Ave) public hearing support

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support of the rezoning application coming forward for the Masonic Centre site tomorrow, January 24.

This is a great proposal that will increase the amount of rental housing in an appropriate area of the City - one that is on transit, near services and close to world class attractions that make our city great.

This city needs more housing supply of all types of tenures and forms to accommodate our growing and changing residents' needs. It's a difficult city to find a place to live that is affordable and central to the city's vitality. I encourage you to support this project to move forward.

Regards,

Joshua Murdock

s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential

Sent from my iPhone