

Ludwig, Nicole

From: Bilyana Ward s.22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 2:18 PM
To: Public Hearing; Kelley, Gil; Robertson, Gregor
Subject: URGENT: Bylaw Change a proposal

Dear City of Vancouver Officials,

I am writing to you urgently as I have just become aware of the proposed changes to a bylaw:

"Amendment to the General Regulations to Delegate Discretionary Relaxation Powers to Expedite the Delivery of Low Cost Housing for Persons Receiving Assistance in less than 24 hours.

While I am fully supportive of resolving the housing crisis in the city, I am shocked and extremely worried that the city is trying to do away with the democratic process which allows citizens to participate meaningfully in the decisions that directly affect their communities.

I am very concerned that power is handed to unelected officials and there are no meaningful checks in place to ensure a robust democratic process.

To this end, how can such a decision be appealed and what is the process for communities and individuals to do so?

Additionally, how is it proposed that communities are consulted meaningfully going forward? Changing a bylaw that requires the city to hear from us can mean there is no recourse for discussion going forward. It can be very damaging.

I am unable to attend in person (something I did when the Copley orchard was proposed for demolition!) due to the short notice for this vote. However, this is something that I and the community around me feel extremely strongly about as we faced a situation where the city was proposing to act hastily without taking all factors into consideration (e.g. Bulldozing over orchards used by schools, community members etc. could kill the spirit of the community). It was an example where the public consultation was extremely valuable. It is distressing to see that there is potential to bypass this process.

Thank you for considering the points above. I would come speak in person if childcare was easier to come by at short notice!

Kind Regards

Bilyana Ward