

**Dragnea, Irina**

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**From:** George Oud s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 3:24 PM  
**To:** Public Hearing  
**Subject:** Amendment to the Arbutus Corridor Official Development Plan

**Re: Amendment to the Arbutus Corridor Official Development Plan**

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to oppose the removal of the “Option Lands,” the northern section of the Arbutus Greenway.

I own property in the Galleria building, across from the Fir Street section, between 1st Avenue and 2nd Avenue and I frequently use the Arbutus Greenway, the Seawall bypass and the Burrard bike route.

I think it is a mistake to end the Arbutus Greenway at 5th Avenue when it could so clearly and beautifully link with the Seawall Bike/Pedestrian route and all of the other metro Greenways (ie. Translink’s Greenway and Parkway). To me, that would represent thoughtfully considered urban planning. I believe the retention of the northern section of the Arbutus Greenway represents a valuable opportunity and it’s loss makes no sense in terms of logistics, use or urban planning. I’ve been told that this section is being cut because of engineering and safety constraints, but I question this excuse, as other sections of the route, which also presented constraints, have been safely included.

As a property owner, I’ve had first-hand experience at seeing how people use and access this area. Without an official designation as such, people already use this area as an unofficial greenway, accessing it for walking, dog-walking, cycling, park-like enjoyment (using and enjoying the community gardens), and it makes so much sense to allow the area to officially join the rest of the Greenway.

It seems apparent that the City has earmarked this area for real estate development, at the loss of a beautifully connected Greenway. If this is the case, it is short-sighted planning and a serious loss of potential for a city-wide, connected Greenway.

I ask that you vote to retain the “Option Lands” or, at the very least, delay this decision for wider public consultation between Vancouverites and the future Council.

Sincerely,

George Oud

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**From:** Mary Wong s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 3:48 PM  
**To:** Public Hearing  
**Subject:** Amendment to the Arbutus Corridor Official Development Plan

**Re: Amendment to the Arbutus Corridor Official Development Plan**

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the removal and sale of the northern end of the Arbutus Greenway, north of 5th Avenue.

I implore you to retain the northern end of the Arbutus Greenway, put this issue forward for greater public consultation and defer the decision for a new Council in 2019.

I make this request because it will be a tremendous lost opportunity for a city-wide Greenway if you decide to stop the Arbutus Greenway at 5th Avenue. Instead, the opportunity to link the Arbutus Greenway with the Seawall route should be seriously explored. This route would link to Science World and the other metro Greenways, a plan that would make complete sense for our "Green" city. I fail to understand why this route represents engineering and safety constraints as I am familiar with the area and have also watched the construction of the southern end of the Arbutus Greenway, which has managed much busier traffic areas safely.

Linking the Arbutus Greenway and Seawall along with the other metro Greenways would represent artful urban planning. Cyclists, pedestrians and park-goers already use this area as an unofficial greenway, utilizing it in all the ways that the City and Planners always hope citizens would access a multi-use greenway, so it simply makes complete sense that the City formalize the use of this area as a greenway and NOT cut it off in order to sell for \$1 and redevelop the lands for real estate use.

If it is true that the City has already set aside this area for real estate development, instead of reserving it for a future public amenity/connected Greenway, then this is a sum of poor planning and great potential loss.

Yours truly,

Mary Wong

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**From:** Iajla nuhic s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM  
**To:** Public Hearing  
**Subject:** Amendment to the Arbutus Corridor Official Development Plan

**Re: Amendment to the Arbutus Corridor Official Development Plan**

To Mayor and Council,

I would like to state my opposition to the removal of the northern section of the Arbutus Greenway "the Option Lands."

I use a bicycle as my primary mode of transportation and frequently use the Arbutus Greenway, the Burrard bike route, and the Seawall bypass.

I believe retention of the "Option Lands" is a valuable opportunity to link the Arbutus Greenway with these routes as well as the Central Valley Greenway and BC Parkway, creating a beautiful, metro-wide bike route.

The Amendment report states that these lands are not required for light rail, walking or cycling "due to engineering and safety constraints." And, I am unclear as to what would constitute a 'safety constraint' in this area *north* of 5th Avenue. For example, what makes it any different than the engineering and safety constraints presented at the many busy crossings *south* of 5th Avenue? The City designers, engineers and planners have managed safety in all of those areas.

As your report mentions that "City staff will undertake a process to explore future land use and density options for the triangular shaped parcel of land within False Creek South on the east side of Fir Street, north of West 2nd Avenue. Staff expect to bring forward a proposed amendment to the False Creek Official Development Plan setting out development potential for this parcel, for consideration by Council in 2019."

It seems that developing the land for residential and commercial uses has been chosen over a connected Greenway/Seawall route, and it also appears that this was always the plan.

If this is true, then a connected Greenway/Sewall is a true loss to future generations, and a serious short-sight in Planning.

In closing, I ask that you please retain the "Option Lands" or delay this decision for greater public consultation and leave the decision for a future Council.

Thank you,

Lajla Nuhic

## Dragnea, Irina

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**From:** William Cherry s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 5:49 PM  
**To:** Public Hearing  
**Subject:** Arbutus CPR right of Way near 1st and Fir

I live near the land in question and have walked it through to 5<sup>th</sup> and Fir. Please do whatever you can to preserve and enhance the green space that is there on the north side of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. It has so much potential as a park with the remaining tracks and surrounding gardens. The triangular shape on the corner is about 12,000 sq ft of rough parking lot now. It would be so nice to turn it totally into a relaxing space for the many cyclists, tourists and families going by.

Please do not let it fall into the control of developers for another condo building yikes. The character of Vancouver is eroding by this sentiment to densify and accommodate. We don't want to become another Manila or Hong Kong where every unoccupied square foot is developed into concrete and steel. At some point we have to realize that trying to accommodate everyone who wants to come and live here from outside is damaging to the quality of life here and there is a limit. Many municipalities have build out limits where more development is not allowed so I hope we have the courage to do the same.

Thank you, William Cherry

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10