

GENERATION|squeeze

RE: East Fraser Lands (EFL) Official Development Plan 10-year Review Planning Program: Progress Update and By-law Amendments for a New Community Centre Site and Affordable Housing

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support for the proposed amendments to the Official Development Plan for East Fraser Lands — item #3 for the public hearing on September 18th.

Generation Squeeze is a Canadian, non-partisan, non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of young Canadians who are being squeezed for time and money in the areas of housing, school, work and family, which all together make it harder to make ends meet.

Housing costs in particular have reached a generational tipping point. Many of our members and volunteers are residents in the City of Vancouver feeling the housing squeeze and have experienced first-hand the difficulty of finding housing options.

As a resident of East Vancouver and a representative of Generation Squeeze, I have been following the planning process for East Fraser Lands over the past few years and am supportive of the overall plan.

I am pleased that the proposed amendments to the East Fraser Lands Official Development Plan will allow for the development of over 55,000 sq. ft. new affordable housing suites in the area. If we want young people and young families to be able to live and prosper in our city, we need to provide housing opportunities that are affordable and include family-oriented housing options (3+ bedroom units) rather than relegating them to the margins of neighbourhoods, restricting them to the downtown core or directly along noisy arterial roads.

Neighbourhoods — like East Fraser Lands - should be inclusive and welcome people of all ages and social status — renters, owners, young people, families, and down-sizers alike. It's great to see that the City and Wesgroup are working together to bring below market units and increased housing capacity to the East Fraser neighbourhood. We need a variety of housing options and a surge of supply to bring down vacancy rates and decrease housing costs across the entire spectrum.

I strongly encourage the City of Vancouver to take bold action moving forward with the proposed amendments to the East Fraser Lands Official Development Plan.

Thank you and regards,

Kind Regards,

s.22(1) Personal and Confidential

Rachel Selinger
Housing Strategist - Metro Vancouver
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South Vancouver Family Place Society
www.southvancouverfamilyplace.org

Kimberley Berger – EFL ODF Public Hearing

- Good afternoon Mayor and Council. My name is Kimberley Berger. I am the Executive Director of South Vancouver Family Place. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to Council today on this item
- South Vancouver Family Place is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support families with young children in building healthy relationships and community networks, by providing services and programs in a welcoming, nurturing and respectful environment.
- South Vancouver Family Place was established in South East Vancouver in 1976, and in 2011, we opened the FraserLands Family Drop - in at East Fraser Lands at the River District Centre. The River District Centre is community facility built and operated by Wesgroup to provide the community a gathering space with customized programming to respond to the needs of the community until such a time when a fully functioning City Community Centre will be completed. I understand this facility costs Wesgroup \$350,000 annually to operate. We are very appreciative of the space, and know that it responds to the needs for the local families.
- Since operating our family resource program in East Fraser Lands, we have seen a dramatic increase in family participation. In 2017/2018, the Drop-In program supported over 250 individual families. In July and August of this past summer 2018, we welcomed another 71 families to our program. There is undoubtedly a demand for these types of preventative, community- based programs, and this need and demand will only increase as the local population continues to grow as it's projected.
- This afternoon, I am sharing a few comments in support of the proposed amendments to the East Fraser Lands ODP in my capacity as Executive Director of South Vancouver Family Place and as a resident of East Vancouver.
- As an active member of my community, I have been following the planning process for East Fraser Lands, and am supportive of the overall plan.
- I'm pleased to hear staff's recommendations to deliver another 55,000 sq. feet of affordable housing at East Fraser Lands – we all know too well how great of a need this is in our city.

- Secondly, SVFP wishes to support and congratulate staff's recommendations to redistribute some density that will allow for expansion of the future community center, when the time comes. This is great foresight; however, we also want to encourage Staff and Council work with Wesgroup on the delivery of the amenities promised in the original ODP – some 10 years ago. I respect and understand that this is a complicated process, but I assure you that there is a current need and this will only increase over the coming short years and the population grows. Our statistics and our conversations with numerous residents over the past years have proven this.
- We are very appreciative of the commitment that Wesgroup has demonstrated to serving our community, and their active engagement with local organizations such as ourselves/
- We look forward to the continued progress of East Fraser Lands, including the proposed amendments before Council this evening.
- Let's keep the momentum moving and deliver the amenities that will see this community flourish. Thank you.

Burke, Teresita

From: Lindsey Bogunovic s.22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: Rezoning Application for EFL ODP Amendments

Vancouver City Councillors:

I am unable to attend the public hearing this afternoon, but I would like my input to be heard on this matter. I'm happy to hear that the new Community Centre in the River District will be made as a stand-alone building, but I **do not support** the additional affordable housing **UNLESS** there is an eminent time line in place for the construction of the community centre and adequate transit solutions for this area. I support the construction as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued dedication to city matters and for taking my input in making your decision.

Lindsey Bogunovic

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