

Choi, Rowena

From: Aaron Robinson s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2020 10:43 AM
To: Public Hearing
Cc: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office

Dear Mayor and Council,

I was on the speakers list to speak to the rezoning of 3600 & 3680 E Hastings St yesterday, but after waiting over 3 hours to speak to this item, I had to leave due to family obligations.

I hope you can include my comments in your decision.

I am pleased to offer my support for the rezoning of 3600 & 2680 E Hastings St and for the plans for PCI's MIHRPP Rental Housing Project on those sites.

My fiance and I moved to East Vancouver last year, after searching for an apartment that was close to transit, pet-friendly, and affordable with enough space for a growing family. This search was not an easy one. But, we were lucky to find the home we are in now and hope to stay there for many years to come.

Many of our friends have not been so lucky in Vancouver. While there has been progress made in delivering more secure rental housing, finding a suitable home in this city remains out of reach for so many.

This project will be key to helping some folks find an ideal and suitable home in the city they love. Located across the street from the Kootenay Loop and on the R5 RapidBus route means that alternate transportation options to the car are readily available. This is further supported by the secured bike parking. I know there have been many comments about the lack of parking spaces and the potential for overflow, but, speaking from experience as a renter in a secure rental building with 20 parking spaces (one parking space per unit), there have only ever been 4 cars parked in our underground garage at any given time (our bike lockers however are full). In my experience, if you need parking, you will not rent a place that does not come with a parking spot. There will be no overflow of parking into the streets or increased traffic from residents on roads causing congestion.

I haven't even gotten to the subsidized rental yet--the fact that 3-bedroom homes are going to be within reach of those making between \$30,000-80,000 is a huge win for the city. These apartments can support a couple where both are making minimum wage (an annual gross income of \$55,000) or a single parent of two kids earning \$15/hour (annual income of \$30,000). This is the type of housing that we so desperately need in this city. These are the people that work in our cafes, restaurants, grocery stores, drycleaners and other services that we often take for granted.

I want to thank Council for their vision on the MIRHPP program and I hope I can count on your support for this project.

Thank you,

--

Cheers,

Aaron Robinson

