

3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)

Date Received	Time Created	Subject	Position	Content	Name	Organization	Contact Info	Neighbourhood	Attachment
03/11/2021	09:51	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown	Oppose	My Vote is No for all of above .	Azam Saeidmonir			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	10:09	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	I oppose the plan to further develop K3 into more social housing structures. I am Yaletown resident. I am also a single woman in her early 30s. I have seen buildings converted into social housing throughout the years. I used to support this as I feel homelessness is a serious problem in the City of Vancouver. However, my position has shifted as more and more social housing developments begin to supersede private residential buildings. I no longer feel safe and secure to walk around the neighbourhood. From safe injection sites to low income housing, I question how thorough background checks are processed and reviewed, if ever, prior to individuals utilizing these accommodations. Our property taxes and strata insurance continuously increase every year and yet every year, I feel less and less secure around my home because the City prioritizes social housing over neighbourhood security.	Teresa I			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	10:13	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	In the last year the restaurant industry (and my self as a small business operator) have seen the full effect and vocal disdain of safety issues on Granville St. as well as what lies ahead for Granville St with a diminished entertainment district. My staff and myself have experienced racist and bigoted attacks as well as sexual assaults. The issue has become so bad the VPD have settled into a sympathetic nonchalance, given the 'catch and release' arresting protocols of at risk communities. The amendment to K3 to provide extra residential housing and social housing would be a direct opposite direction needed to revitalizing the entertainment district and its local area. This amendment would see people with addiction issues directly located in an area that would provide an extremely tough scenario towards long term sobriety and moving out of the social housing system. This would not only affect the person in need, but the local entertainment businesses would have increased safety issues, placing further strain on an already reeling industry. In the scenario that the residential social housing isn't for a person with addiction issues, then the most likely scenario is that they would want a quiet area. This would cause an increase in noise complaints (which has commonly occurred in the past with new residents moving into an existing area) and provide a statistical checkpoint for further entertainment and liquor license restrictions, stunting any possible growth or revitalization. The K3 amendment would not even be tabled if the Mayor and council had restricted the height of so many developments around the city over such a long period of time. So the following questions are below. Is the council willing to go on record stating that they are aware and willing to accept the added risks to existing small businesses? Knowing that the demographic being proposed for residential properties are directly adverse to their security and operational integrity. Are the council willing to accept and meet the small business operators and owners who have to deal with racism and bigotry on a daily basis? Listening to the stories that they have to deal with. Are the council willing to state that they are putting the needs of addicted people over the needs of minimum wage immigrant workers that fill the entertainment district? What is the plan for tourism marketing and providing tourism infrastructure if there are no entertainment options and hotels are used for social housing needs?	Lewis Hart			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	10:32	PH2 - 3. Amendment to	Oppose	Please see the attached letter in opposition of the March 11th agenda item 3.	Sascha Voth			Downtown	Appendix A
03/11/2021	10:34	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	I am a commercial leasing broker who has been in the business for over 30 years. I have been, for 20 years and continue to be, against conversion of any more commercially zoned spaces downtown to more residential uses. Regardless of whether it has been market condominiums or social housing, the downtown has seen an onslaught of residential replacing commercial buildings (retail, office and hotel). Downtown particularly needs to hold on to the remaining commercial zones to allow business space as the City grows. For years, to encourage residential, the City allowed condos on commercial zoned land but the result was the prevention of anyone building or keeping commercial buildings. The City eventually recognized this by preventing residential in commercial zoned spaces (10 years ago) but now here we go again. More residential zoning means less commercial space. Granville street in particular is not suitable for residential for anyone. It is not a residential street. Please do not proceed with this rezoning.	Fergus Cameron			Dunbar-Southlands	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	11:04	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	When are you going to stop building hotels for our at risk population when they need treatment centres? Social housing is just another name for low income housing and unfortunately those types of tenants live a transient lifestyle and are often addicts or have mental health issues. I'm all for supporting our at risk population, but supplying more "hotels" for them only perpetuates them to live squalor. As we have seen in the past, this type of housing has a detrimental effect on the surrounding neighbourhood and businesses. Granville street was once a thriving retail and night life district that is getting worse every year. This type of amendment to the zoning will only exasperate that problem in this area. Build more treatment centres and hospital beds. Not hotels for the homeless...	Gord Robson			Mount Pleasant	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	11:35	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	regarding to k3 plan of affordable housing, and Extension... C-2....., we are oppose to these plans. During 18 years of living and working in downtown core area we HAVE NOT seen any infrastructural project for downtown except growing high towers, building surrounded every inch of downtown core. As you are in power now, you should see the further future of downtown within 70 years ahead of yourself and then stop the plan to bring more population from every provinces to this area along with huge immigrant folks who finally end up to reside in downtown. Therefore the focus must be on depopulate the city core by: 1- widen the roads, streets, avenues ex. in metropolitan cities, the government establishes a long term project to achieve that. 2-build more hospital, emergency rooms, more fire station, small parks 3- take the government offices to further areas. 4-encourage the private sectors to establish their offices away from the core. offer them incentives, and facilitate their efforts. Then you provide the young generation to create jobs. At this point, building affordable housing make sense, otherwise, this government bring more problems to the plate by approving the k3 plan. In some disasters circumstances the downtown residents will NOT be survive and will be hit with double whammy. thank you for your attention	masoud moghani			Downtown	No web attachments.

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03/11/2021	11:41	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	My position ' intro/conclusion GRANVILLE STREET INCLUDING K3 BLOCK SHOULD NOT HAVE EXPANDED RESIDENTIAL USES ' SOCIAL OR OTHERWISE RATIONALE: -Granville St always has been a commercial street -needs to remain as a commercial street -commercial space and uses should not be lost to residential uses -developing buildings for residential uses will be a loss of existing and potential commercial space -the commercial areas will be reduced on the ground floor ' any assertion that they will be replaced is no true -SROs were built as short term hotels ' never for long term (many don't have washrooms and kitchens) - our fellow citizens that need help should be integrated into residential zones which Granville St is not -we have a shortage of hotel rooms ' they should not be converted to any use except as they are HOTEL USE -we should not people that have addictions or prone to addiction anywhere near the Granville Entertainment District as this is an area where tourists, families and everyday people gather. -Residential uses conflict with the inherent nature of a street that includes the City's Entertainment District, and a street that has large lights and neon signage, festivals, large gatherings and the general hustle and bustle of a commercial street with extended retail and business hours beyond normal hours. -Granville Street is known for its immense activity and associated noise and excitement. Generally speaking most residents want and seek a quiet home. And therefore, increasing residential uses on arguably the busiest and loudest street in the City is counterintuitive and quite simply lacks common sense. -Residential uses and K3 changes do not support success of existing small businesses ' cause gentrification and force out small businesses -this will cause greater problems for policing -K3 changes to do not correspond to the DVBA vision for the street ' especially the Restaurant Row vision -Street should be used for business, entertainment, food & beverage uses and arts	Alexander Kucher		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	12:01	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	It is better not to increase the number of rentals in this area. It is better to have retail shops and keep the heritage character of the area.	Richard Hayward		West End	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	12:09	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	This is making it really hard for tourism, people feel unsafe and are finding this area undesirable. So now hotel, bars and restaurant workers are losing their jobs.	Kerrian Livingstone		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	12:11	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	I live and work right in the area K3. With how much Granville street has gone downhill since the start of COVID, and the with Howard Johnson hotel becoming housing, adding more housing in this area will destroy businesses. I am worried about walking around in this area.	Rajiv Jackson Singh		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	12:38	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	Granville street has declined so much over the past little while that it has affected my business and tourism. Adding more subsidized housing to this area will only exasperate the problem.	Ashif Suleman		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	12:41	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	Dear City Council, I am writing to OPPOSE the proposed Development Plan for Area K3 (Granville Street) and support DVBA in their efforts to rehabilitate Granville St and turn it 'once again' into a sociable and safe environment for everyone who is living, working, visiting or running a business in this area: "The focus of new development on Granville street should be commercial, not residential! *We have a shortage of hotel rooms downtown, and any further conversion of hotels to residential development will have negative consequences for businesses!! *A high concentration of social housing in any particular area can lead to negative stigmas and social challenges! To further concentrate more social housing along Granville Street, where there is currently a disproportionately high number of SROs, is not the right approach for addressing the need for social housing throughout the city. Thank you XS	Xenia Slosarick		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	13:02	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	Keep Granville same as before. No need high rise buildings. With old style We love Granville :) Also we need Sun " already to many high rise in downtown. Thank you for understanding.	Kenan		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	13:13	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	Please we need (SUN) no need to change Granville street. Already in Downtown to many high rise buildings. Please keep same and thank you "	Alona Alaiza		Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	13:15	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	-Granville always has been a commercial street and should remain as such -commercial space and uses should not be lost to residential uses especially those residential uses that congregate those detrimental to the viability of this character area. -developing buildings for residential uses will be a loss of existing and potential commercial space -the commercial areas will be reduced on the ground floor ' any assertion that they will be replaced is not true -SROs were built as short term hotels ' never for long term (many don't have washrooms and kitchens) -our fellow citizens that need help should be integrated into existing residential zones which Granville St is not -we have a shortage of hotel rooms ' they should not be converted to any use except as they are HOTEL USE -we should not have people that have addictions or prone to addiction anywhere near the Granville Entertainment District, this is helping perpetuate the problem -Residential uses conflict with the inherent nature of a street that includes the City's Entertainment District, and a street that has large lights and neon signage, festivals, large gatherings and the general hustle and bustle of a commercial street with extended retail and business hours beyond normal hours. -Granville Street is known for its immense activity and associated noise and excitement. Generally speaking most residents want and seek a quiet home. And therefore, increasing residential uses on arguably the busiest and loudest street in the City is counterintuitive and quite simply lacks common sense. -Residential uses and K3 changes do not support success of existing small businesses ' cause gentrification and force out small businesses -this will cause greater problems for policing -K3 changes to do not correspond to the DVBA vision for the street ' especially the Restaurant Row vision -Street should be used for business, entertainment, food & beverage uses and arts	Robert Down		Dunbar-Southlands	No web attachments.

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03/11/2021	13:19	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	Dear City of Vancouver Mayor, Council, and Staff Members, I am writing to you today as a concerned citizen on behalf of Hotel Belmont Vancouver located at 654 Nelson Street, to express our concerns over a request for amendment to the Downtown Official Development Plan (DODP) in Area K3 (between Drake Street and Helmcken Street on Granville Street) to increase density of secured rental housing and social housing, and the impact it could have on the long term economic outlook of the Granville Entertainment District (GED) as well as community safety in downtown Vancouver. Due to word limit, kindly refer to attached letter.	Jeff Leung			Unknown	Appendix B
03/11/2021	13:19	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	As a business owner on Granville since 2004, I feel there is plenty of social housing in this district already.	Raymond Staniscia			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	13:45	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	I'm in a strong opinion that Granville street including K3 block should not have expanded residential uses, especially social housing or otherwise. I've been a resident of Vancouver all my life and to lose the character of a vibrant commercial strip with the rich history of Granville would be such a mistake. By implementing any form of residential housing it would diminish the vibrancy use of the festivals, large gatherings, Concerts, and the hustle & bustle of the last real commercial strip that goes late into the night. Once any housing comes in the noise complaints begin and the city then caters to appeasing something they should have never allowed. This Granville strip would continue to attract unique small business as opposed to just corporate. There is something to be said to a visitor coming to Vancouver going over the Granville bridge to a hotel and to see such a city with life and energy. What I worry about is that visitor coming over the bridge onto Granville and seeing our worst part of the downtown eastside expanded here. By spreading more social housing to Granville K3 district spreads the problem that has not been dealt with for years. Downtown now has so much residential space that the downtown district is no longer unique but rather just a blended core of high rises. Having hotels down that strip would make so much more sense than any housing plans. My last note is that common sense has seemed to disappear. Increasing residential use and or social housing on the probably the most busiest, loudest and festive street in Vancouver absolutely makes no sense at all. My wish is to see Vancouver have that landmark strip that people all over the world would recognize and would want to visit. Robson once the jewel of such recognition no longer has that. Lets keep Stanley Park green and the Granville strip grounded to a vibrant commercial strip. Thank you , Sal Audia	Sal Audia			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	13:51	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	The focus of new development on Granville street should be commercial, not residential. We have a shortage of hotel rooms downtown, and any further conversion of hotels to residential development will have negative consequences for businesses. A high concentration of social housing in any particular area can lead to negative stigmas and social challenges. To further concentrate more social housing along Granville Street, where there is currently a disproportionately high number of SROs, is not the right approach for addressing the need for social housing throughout the city.	Irina Novak-Calki			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	14:03	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	This will just continue the tragic deterioration of Granville Street into another Downtown Eastside. I used to walk back and forth from my home and office using Granville. It's now too dangerous, dirty, and depressing to do that.	Janine A.S. Thomas			Kitsilano	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	14:16	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	We are strongly opposed to the development of any additional social housing or residences in the Yaletown and Granville area. We have witnessed an alarming increase in unwanted and unsafe activity in our community since more of these social resources have become more prominent in the area. And as a business we have faced many challenges as a result. We have had clients complain about safety, there has been a drastic increase in the number of people who have complained about being accosted on the street on the way to our business. The streets have been dirtier with both trash and even human waste. And additionally there has been a drastic increase in the amount of dirty/used needles left on the ground. Our business services adults AND children and this poses a direct risk to our clientele. We are of the firm belief that this area is not where these resource centres and residences should be developed. Both for the safety of our community and the overall wellbeing of this neighbourhood we strongly oppose this motion.	Alex			Downtown	No web attachments.

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03/11/2021	14:18	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	Granville Street, including the K3 zone, should not under any circumstances have any expanded residential uses ' whether such residential uses are for social, rental or market housing or otherwise. Only the expansion of commercial, hotel, and arts & culture density and uses should be allowed. Granville Street has always historically been a predominantly commercial street - it should continue to remain as one. Commercial density, whether unrealized (unbuilt FSR density) currently or actually existing, should neither be reduced nor replaced by residential uses. Commercial Use of the street is an important part of its heritage - it should be respected, enhanced, and grown and not reduced. Focus should be consistent with past density allowances and therefore be increased at a minimum to reflect that history - where buildings were built to a 5-6 FSR like the former Tom Lee Building at 929 Granville Street (~6 FSR) for example, versus only or predominantly increasing residential uses and densities alone. Residential uses conflict with the inherent nature of a street that includes the City's Entertainment District, and a street that has large, bright and often neon signage, festivals, large gatherings and the general hustle and bustle of a commercial street with extended retail and business hours beyond normal hours. Residential uses want quiet ' this conflicts with the noise and activity of increased entertainment, restaurant and arts & culture uses. Granville Street is known for its immense activity and the noise and excitement that go hand in hand with the same. Generally speaking most residents want and seek a quiet home. And therefore, increasing residential uses on arguably the busiest and loudest street in the City is counterintuitive, and conflicts with commercial uses - and quite simply lacks common sense. Note the municipality of Vancouver is 115 sqkm and any new or old housing requirements, whether for rental, social or market housing, can be substantially located on more appropriate streets or areas. We need commercial space to drive the economy. The conversion of K3 properties allowing for increased residential use and density will necessarily cause the loss of existing small businesses, above grade offices and other commercial uses, and the loss of hotel space. We should not have policy that diminishes neither existing nor potential commercial space. What is proposed in the K3 will require major losses of ground floor area commercial uses. t makes sense to increase only the commercial density of downtown's Granville street, including on the K3 zone. I urge Council to exercise logic, and do its best to keep Granville Street in line with its historic use as a commercial, hotel, tourist, entertainment and cultural ' and not allow for quick fix, ill advised plans for the expansion of residential uses as the K3 amendment proposes.	Kerry Bonnis			Jnknown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	14:34	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	As I see there are a number of comments above with many of the same points I will not repeat the obvious. We do however wish to go on the record to oppose this amendment. As the owner of two businesses in the Granville Entertainment district I want to convey to council a message that I share with many of my peer business owners. It is bad, very bad on our streets. Since the addition of the social housing in our neighborhood Our staff and customers do not feel safe at our place of business. We have been operating at this location since 2004 and we have seen economic up and downs, survived massive construction on our street and with a little luck can even make it through to the other side of this Covid battle. But what has come of our streets, store fronts and alley ways is a shame. I do not know that we will have the ability to come out in the other side of this. support the efforts to treat and help mental illness and am not opposed to programming that meets the very apparent need, however adding more to what's clearly not working in the entertainment district is clearly not the answer. Thank you council for you time and consideration on this matter.	Peter Raptis			do not live in Vancouver	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	14:41	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown	Oppose	taking hotel space away, entertainment street	Dino Bonnis			Arbutus-Ridge	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	14:47	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown	Oppose	I oppose the K3 project. I live in Yaletown. I don't like the idea in my neighborhood.	Yassi Bassiri			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	14:54	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street)	Oppose	I BELIEVE GRANVILLE ST NCLUDING K3 BLOCK SHOULD NOT HAVE EXPANDED RES DENTIAL USES ' SOCIAL HOUS NG OR OTHERWISE RATIONALE: -Granville always has been a commercial street and should remain as such -commercial space and uses should not be lost to residential uses especially those residential uses that congregate those detrimental to the viability of this character area. -developing buildings for residential uses will be a loss of existing and potential commercial space -the commercial areas will be reduced on the ground floor ' any assertion that they will be replaced is not true -SROs were built as short term hotels ' never for long term (many don't have washrooms and kitchens) -our fellow citizens that need help should be integrated into existing residential zones which Granville St is not -we have a shortage of hotel rooms ' they should not be converted to any use except as they are HOTEL USE -we should not have people that have addictions or prone to addiction anywhere near the Granville Entertainment District, this is helping perpetuate the problem - Residential uses conflict with the inherent nature of a street that includes the City's Entertainment District, and a street that has large lights and neon signage, festivals, large gatherings and the general hustle and bustle of a commercial street with extended retail and business hours beyond normal hours. -Granville Street is known for its immense activity and associated noise and excitement. Generally speaking most residents want and seek a quiet home. And therefore, increasing residential uses on arguably the busiest and loudest street in the City is counterintuitive and quite simply lacks common sense. -Residential uses and K3 changes do not support success of existing small businesses ' cause gentrification and force out small businesses -this will cause greater problems for policing -K3 changes to do not correspond to the DVBA vision for the street ' especially the Restaurant Row vision -Street should be used for business, entertainment, food & beverage uses and arts	Ted Wilkie			Downtown	No web attachments.
03/11/2021	15:00	PH2 - 3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3	Oppose	Im a long time resident of south downtown and I oppose this amendment and believe it will only continue to deteriorating quality of life by adding more soical services and social housing in this proposed area...its already over populated and is pushing long time residents away to the suburbs for public safety reasons. please do not approve this and rethink what your doing to what was a safe and vibrant downtown core.	Michael Mylett			Downtown	No web attachments.

APPENDIX A

Strata Council
1212 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC
V6Z 2M9

March 11, 2021

Dear Vancouver City Council,

We care deeply about our neighbourhood and are troubled by challenges it faces which have been exacerbated in 2020. Every day our building manager and custodian must pick up needles and garbage, then hose human feces from around the building. The garage entrance/exit is often blocked by people camping out and shooting up and residents no longer feel safe coming and going. We have increased our security budget to counter a significant uptick of petty crime and attempted break-ins for both commercial units and the residential building. The police are often slow to respond, and the building manager must spend a large portion of his day having potentially dangerous interactions with people around the building to maintain some resemblance of order.

This strata council has previously backed supportive housing in the area, wanting to be part of a city-wide solution. The province and the city have taken advantage of this goodwill and lack of neighbourhood organization by continually choosing to place housing and services in a small, localized area. Vancouver City Council knows there are few areas willing to put up with this kind of crime and general disorder, so they continue to place housing where they have been able to get it passed previously. This concentration and degradation helps no one, causing harm to the general public while further stigmatizing those in need.

We ask that, on the March 11th agenda item '3. Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3', Vancouver City Council does not go through with the redevelopment of three parking lots into more social housing.

Regards,



Sascha Voth
Mark Bolton
Peter Chin
Ben D'Ovidio
Jennifer Tiong
Veysel Aydin



HOTEL BELMONT

654 Nelson Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6K4
604-605-4333 |

March 10th, 2021

Vancouver City Council and Staff

Re: Area K3 – Granville Street

Dear City of Vancouver Mayor, Council, and Staff Members,

I am writing to you today as a concerned citizen on behalf of Hotel Belmont Vancouver located at 654 Nelson Street, to express our concerns over a request for amendment to the Downtown Official Development Plan (DODP) in Area K3 (between Drake Street and Helmcken Street on Granville Street) to increase density of secured rental housing and social housing, and the impact it could have on the long term economic outlook of the Granville Entertainment District (GED) as well as community safety in downtown Vancouver.

The GED has had a long history as being the entertainment central of Vancouver with not just night clubs and bars but also world-class music venues, hotels, and retail. This strategic geographical location also happens to be the face of downtown Vancouver to International visitors as they descend via the beautiful Granville Bridge. The district has evolved over the last 50 years and is ready for the next phase of development to unlock its economic and cultural potential. The recently published framework report by DVBA detailing the “restaurant row” vision, would be an example of how the GED can be completely revitalized by intensification and diversification of its commercial, entertainment, arts, and culture offerings, and a revamped public realm that helps support a safe and electric atmosphere, not just after the dark but around the clock for locals of all ages, genders, and groups. The revitalization, beatification and establishment of this key district would only further propel Vancouver to becoming the next cultured global destination for jobs and tourism. The hurried addition of social housing at this time, which would completely change the path of the neighborhood, without in-depth consultation process with all stakeholders in a key area where many businesses and residents reside and much resource and investments have been deployed for economic development, would not be sensible.

Community safety for our visitors, patrons, residents, and staff is regularly brought up as being a primary area of concern in the downtown core. My staff and I all work and walk on Granville Street daily and it is clear that all businesses are regularly faced with issues such as blatant theft, aggression, vandalism, open drug use, threats, constant collection of debris, syringes, and human feces and the overall sense of feeling unsafe, which are directly or indirectly connected to the several sizeable service and social housing sites which Granville Street is already home to and it is also apparent that unsightly congregations and loitering are happening in front of these sites. With the existing aforementioned issues not addressed, we should not be looking to further increase density of social housing in this area. The effort should be spent to first curb these issues and provide an overall sense of safety to everyone who lives, works, and visits here, as well as preserving Vancouver’s status as one of the world’s top leisure, entertainment, conference, and business travel destination as we get out of the Covid.

While all downtown hospitality businesses are dealt a devastating blow by Covid-19, we are even more concerned over the issue of crime and safety in Downtown Vancouver which convey long term economic impact. Therefore, though our organization agrees that more needs to be done in the area of social housing, we do not agree with further amendment to increase social housing density on Granville Street.

Sincerely,


Jeff Leung
General Manager, Hotel