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June 21, 2006

To: David Weber
City of Richmond

Sir,

I am writing to you to request the opportunity to give a 5 minute presentation to Richmond City Council.

In the spring of 2003, circumstances and living conditions on this street abruptly changed. This followed after changes were made to The Soil Conservancy Act, in November 2002.

I'd like to have an opportunity to express to Council the consequences to affected residents the apparent legislative void has left in its wake.

That summer, 2003, residents endured steady streams of dump trucks on a narrow, residential side street often only seconds apart, up to 12 hours a day, on a regular basis, for six months.

The dirt from the trucks coated vehicles and homes, inside and out. Homes here do not have adequate setbacks for the road as it is currently being used, for fully-laden trucks, often trying to pass each other on the affected street.

The 2000 block #8 Road was turned into a thoroughfare for convoys of dump trucks down a residential side street. At peak intervals, a truck passed by every 10 to 15 seconds. Trucks droned back and forth, often 12 hours a day. Life was made miserable for residents with airborne dirt, noise, and fumes. Despite the hot weather that summer, keeping windows open resulted in dirt permeating virtually every surface in homes.

It significantly impacted the well-being of residents, and the ability to enjoy one's own property.

This new practice was repeated in similar ways in the summers of 2004, and 2005. The dumping season officially began yesterday at

8:00am, with trucks up and down the street until 8:00pm. Apparently, this will be the norm for approximately the next 2 months.

This is now year 4, and summer is officially cancelled for the residents of 2000 block #8 Road once again.

The circumstances that residents are being subjected to – and the duration – are unreasonable and upsetting to say the least. The dumping issue has been well documented in local media. Other municipalities such as Langley and Surrey have "Soil Watch" programs in effect to address issues such as this, and to balance agricultural/dumping and residential interests. I believe Pitt Meadows has taken similar action.

Richmond, however, has taken the step of providing frustrated taxpayers a recorded message instructing them to direct concerns to the ALR, which bounces it back to the city. Residents who once live in areas bounded by farms now find themselves living in a heavy industrial worksite for months out of each year.

There needs to be a balance made by the City to balance farming and dumping issues in proportion to affected residents. To expect residents to endure this activity for the fourth year in a row, and to forfeit the enjoyment of homes, lives and property in favour of a practice that was introduced without any consultive process or consideration of the general liveability on a residential and people it directly affects, is posing a serious hardship for those that find themselves in the abyss that currently exists in the City of Richmond.

I therefore respectfully ask the City to investigate this matter and to regulate it in a way respectful to agricultural, environmental, health, and residential concerns.

Sincerely,

Joanne Catherine Fisher
2420 #8 Road, Richmond, B.C. V6V 1S1 604-276-2842

Classic PhoneTools



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Message :

Request to make a presentation to Council.

sincerely,

Joanne Fisher phone: 604-276-2842

From:

Joanne C. Fisher

To: City of Richmond

Mr. David Weber

Date: 21/06/2006

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