Minutes



Special Council Monday, September 20, 2021

Place:

Council Chambers

Richmond City Hall

Present:

Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie

Councillor Chak Au Councillor Carol Day Councillor Andy Hobbs

Councillor Alexa Loo (by teleconference) Councillor Bill McNulty (by teleconference) Councillor Linda McPhail (by teleconference) Councillor Harold Steves (by teleconference) Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference)

Corporate Officer - Claudia Jesson

Call to Order:

Mayor Brodie called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

RES NO. ITEM

COMMUNITY BYLAWS DIVISION

1. 10100 SEVERN DRIVE - APPEAL OF ORDER TO COMPLY

(File Ref. No.: 12-8080-05) (REDMS No. 6672592 v. 2; 6662493; 6681403; 6674197)

Staff provided a memorandum on-table (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 1), and reviewed the appeal, noting that (i) Bylaw staff were recently on-site and noted that some unsightly items have remained on the property such as two derelict (unlicensed or inoperable) vehicles and pallets, (ii) one derelict vehicle is permitted to remain in the property, and (iii) the shipping container on the property can be removed in a separate action.

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RES NO. ITEM

Edward Wong, applicant, 10100 Severn Drive, referenced his submission, (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 2), spoke on his application, noting that (i) effort has been made in the time provided for remediation and the backyard has been cleared of items, (ii) there is sentimental value to the vehicles on the property and effort will be made to either insure them or properly dispose of one vehicle, (iii) the shipping container will only be on-site temporarily until external storage arrangements can be made, and (iv) the applicant intends to retain the pallets in the backyard for fencing materials.

Discussion ensued with regard to (i) historical unsightly complaints made on the subject site, (ii) incremental improvements to clear the property, (iii) the time required to fully complete the remediation, (iv) options to remove the shipping container on-site, and (v) removal of the pallets and installing fencing on the property.

Mayor Brodie advised that the applicant will need to take action on the remaining items on the property, such as the derelict vehicles and pallets, in order to comply with the order. In reply to queries, Mr. Wong noted that additional time is required to complete such actions.

As a result of the discussion, the following **motion** was introduced:

SP21/6-1

It was moved and seconded

That the appeal for the Order to Comply issued for contraventions of Unsightly Premises Regulation Bylaw No. 7162 related to the property at 10100 Severn Drive be adjourned until October 4, 2021.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Day Hobbs McPhail

ADJOURNMENT

SP21/6-2

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (4:50 p.m.).

CARRIED



Minutes

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	Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Special meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, September 20, 2021.
Mayor (Malcolm D. Brodie)	Corporate Officer (Claudia Jesson)





Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Special meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, September 20, 2021.

Memorandum

Community Safety Division Community Bylaws

To:

Mayor and Councillors

Date:

September 20, 2021

From:

Mark Corrado

File:

09-5350-00/Vol 01

Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs

Re:

September 20, 2021 Inspection Update on 10100 Severn Drive - Appeal of Order to

Comply

At today's Special Council meeting, Council will be considering the appeal of an order to comply (the "Order") issued to the property owner of 10100 Severn Drive for contraventions of Unsightly Premises Regulation Bylaw No. 7162 (the "Bylaw"). Council heard a presentation at a Special Council meeting on July 19, 2021, from the property owner's son that he needed more time in order to comply with the Bylaw and Council agreed to provide an extension to September 20, 2021.

In order to provide Council with most up to date information of the site conditions of the property, bylaw enforcement staff attended the property on the morning of September 20, 2021. Pictures from this inspection are attached to this memorandum.

As shown in the pictures, there has been some change on the property since the meeting on July 19, 2021 such as the removal of one derelict vehicle and one container as well as some boxes in the driveway. However, the property remains in non-compliance with the Bylaw due to:

- Two derelict vehicles in the front driveway (one vehicle was removed and towed). One vehicle is completely inaccessible and barely visible.
- Several stacks of pallets in the back yard, along the fence, at the back of the house plus additional pallets in the driveway;
- Carport has stacks of boxes of books and newspaper
- One shipping container remains in the driveway
- Piles of discarded items stored under tarps in the backyard.

This site has a long history of unsightly premise complaints and throughout that history would lapse into non-compliance after each partial clean up. Considering the condition of the property, the number of complaints received and the extensions of time already afforded to the property owner, it remains the recommendation of staff that the appeal of the Order is denied. Denying the appeal and upholding the Order will give the City of Richmond the authority to remove all the discarded material and bring the property in full compliance with the Bylaw. Many of the discarded items to be removed are recyclable and the City will ensure that they are recycled and not thrown in the garbage.





While upholding the Order to Comply will allow the City to clean the site and leave it compliant with Unsightly Premises Regulation Bylaw No. 7162, the presence of the containers/bins is in non-compliance with Richmond Zoning Bylaw No. 8500. Following consideration of the appeal of the Order, staff will begin formal enforcement measures to have the containers/bins removed.

Staff from Community Bylaws will be at the Special Council meeting later today to answer further questions on this matter.

Mark Corrado

Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs (604-204-8673)

Att. Pictures from September 20, 2021 Inspection

pc: SMT

Clay Adams, Director, Corporate Communications

10100 Severn Drive Inspection Photos - September 20, 2021

One Annacis Waste Disposal Bin (#AC-304) on the driveway (Second Disposal Bin has been removed along with the discarded materials on the driveway)







One derelict vehicle visible in the carport (Second derelict vehicle covered up and is inside the carport. The third one has been removed and towed.)









Pallets in the backyard on the South West corner (discarded materials have been removed/pallets remains the same)



Pallets and discarded materials (plastic and tarps) on the North East Corner (remains the same)





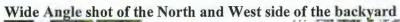














Wide Angle shot of the North and South side of the backyard



Letter to the Appeal Hearing

Schedule 2 to the Minutes of the Special meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, September 20, 2021.

To the Mayor and Councillors:

I have done my best to comply with the Order and have kept the property tidy despite the long hot Summer with the help of my brother and my mom.

The bin load full of papers have been hauled away by Annacis Waste Disposal Company and unloaded at Cascades Recovery Recycling.

The old 1982 Datsun 310 on the driveway has also been hauled away and scrapped. Since this old car has been scrapped, the other 2 vehicles that are licensed and insured are 2005 Buick Allure and 2005 Pontiac Montana.

I've checked with ICBC and I was informed that vehicles on single family detached home properties are not required to be insured except those parked on Strata unit properties.

The new recent photos show that the backyard is tidy and neat and to remain in this condition at all times in order not to allow anyone especially the upstairs tenant from complaining to the City again.

I still need the final bin and is covered with an olive green tarp that is less conspicuous and seems to blend with the trees and landscape.

The tarp covering over the bin was suggested to me by a neighbour and friend in the neighbourhood.

I hope the series of pictures show that the property is in satisfactory condition.

I wish for Closure on this case and file that had lingered on without closure since November 22, 2019 despite efforts to tidy up the back yard.

I hope that the case and file closure in this appeal will be granted.

Regards, Edward Ken Wong





History of Complains in this Neighbourhood

Complains to the City began in this neighbourhood about 10 years by the Barrons family against several, about 8 homes for various alleged bylaw infractions. They were selling their 2 homes in the area on Swansea and Gower Street and they wanted to tidy up the neighbourhood homes in order to try to get the most money in the sale of their properties.

There seems to be a neighbourhood conflict with the Barrons regarding rat and mice problem which probably came from the garbage bin shed at the Fraserview Care Lodge which they used to own. I did check up on the garbage shed once years ago and Wayne Barron saw me and he was extremely upset and angry at me.

He also owned the home on Gower Street which is on the back of our house overlooking our backyard. This was where the series of complains began by the Barrons.

Sad that the Barrons are a tragic family as I've heard that he has been a mental recluse, his son, Kevin committed suicide and the other son, Jeff was in and out of the mental institution, and both sons were drug addicts.

Despite our efforts to clean up the back yard, another habitual complainer is the Duplex tenant upstairs overlooking our backyard.

Many tenants have come and gone over the years but Mrs. Terri Buller-Taylor and her husband, Robert and family were there for 22 years ago. Their 2 kids when they were young played ball and broke the fence many times until I can no longer repair it anymore.

The kids have grown up and since moved away but the fence is still broken and Mrs. Terri Buller-Taylor have never acknowledged that her 2 kids broke the fence but her husband, Robert did acknowledge and apologise to my mom that their kids did broke the fence.

Ever since the new owners of the duplex bought the property in 2016 at a peak price, they were not willing to spend any money on repairs to the complex as former tenants have told me. So, they have not been willing to share the cost of the new fence. Wayne Barron did pay his share of our back fence in 1998.

Unlike her husband, Robert is a very nice and friendly person, Mrs. Terri Buller-Taylor is not a nice and friendly person and seem rather intolerant. She has never ever mentioned about the backyard issue to my mom, the property owner, but instead complained directly to the city numerous times.

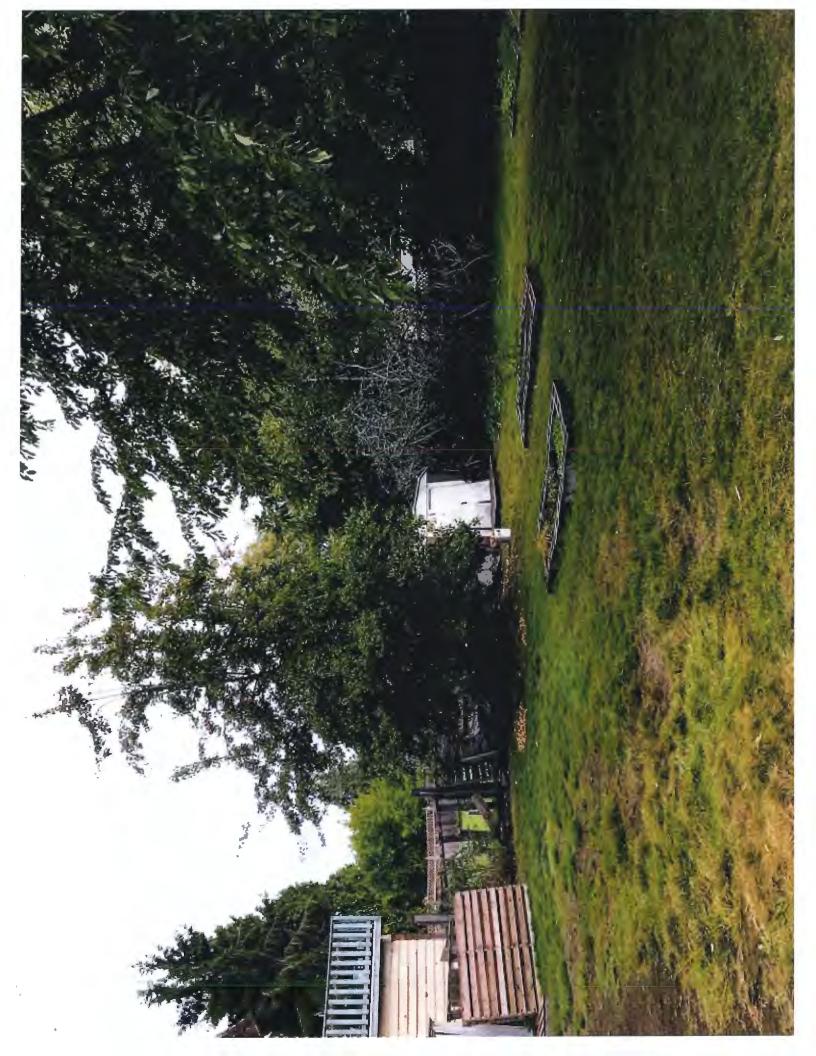
There is also the next-door neighbour, Eliza Ko and husband, Vincent Li, who did admit to me that they complained once to the city but not in this current case. They have owned the house since 2012.

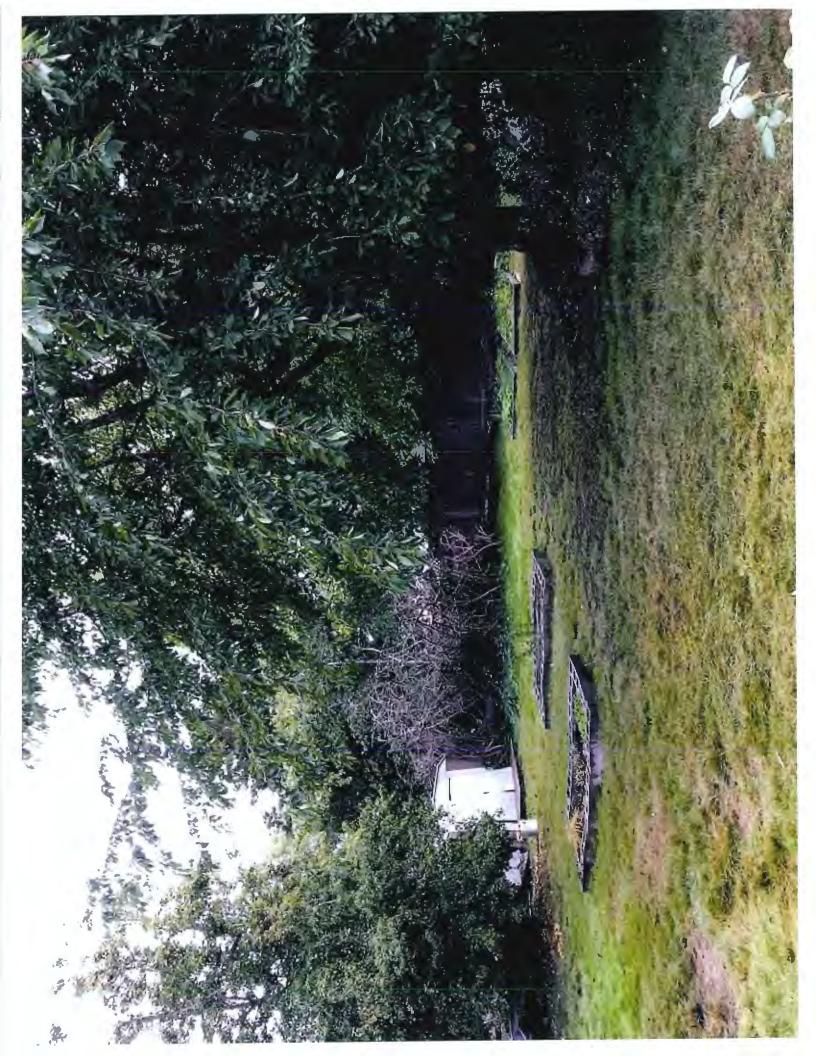
As I had suffered series of setbacks in my career and personal life, and a few family businesses loses too, my anxiety condition may have been affected by these setbacks that caused the hoarding problem of books, magazines and newspapers.

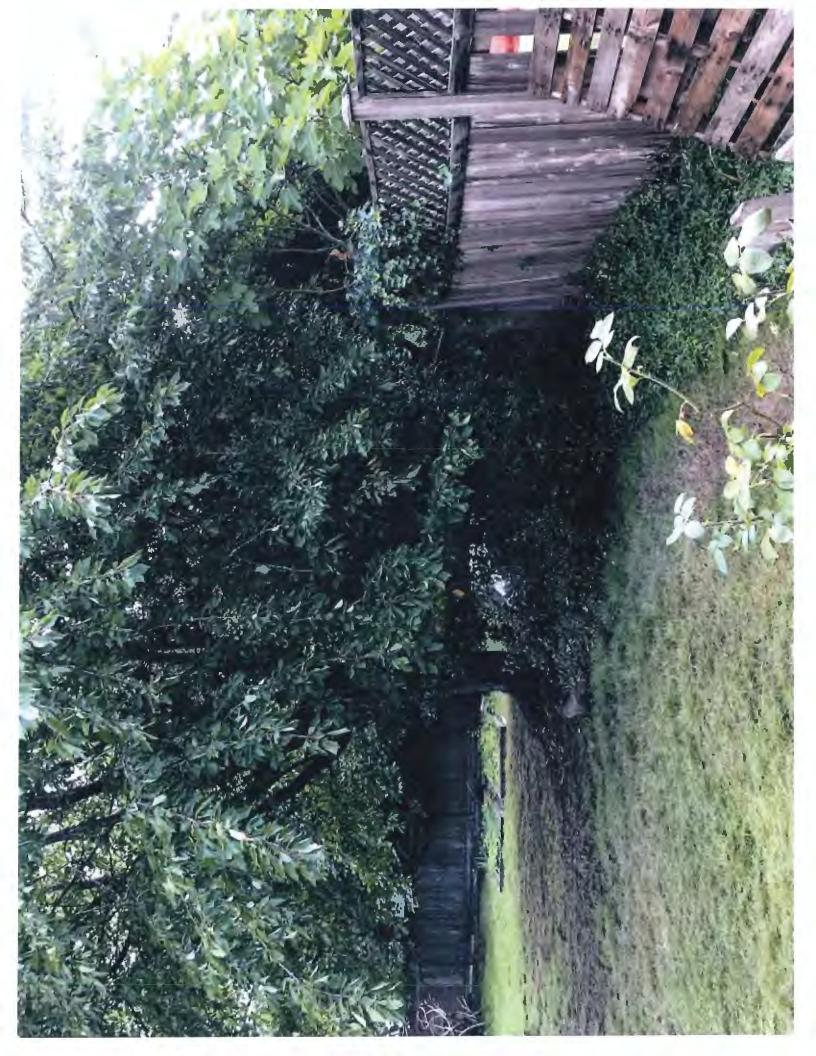
I have tried to remedy the problem and this time I feel that I may be succeeding after many attempts. I will maintain my mom's property as neat and tidy as possible so as to not cause some intolerant, unforgiving individuals in the neighbourhood to complain to the city against us.

I need to move on to better things soon and I hope the Mayor and Councillor are understanding and compassionate in this case under appeal and grant a closure.











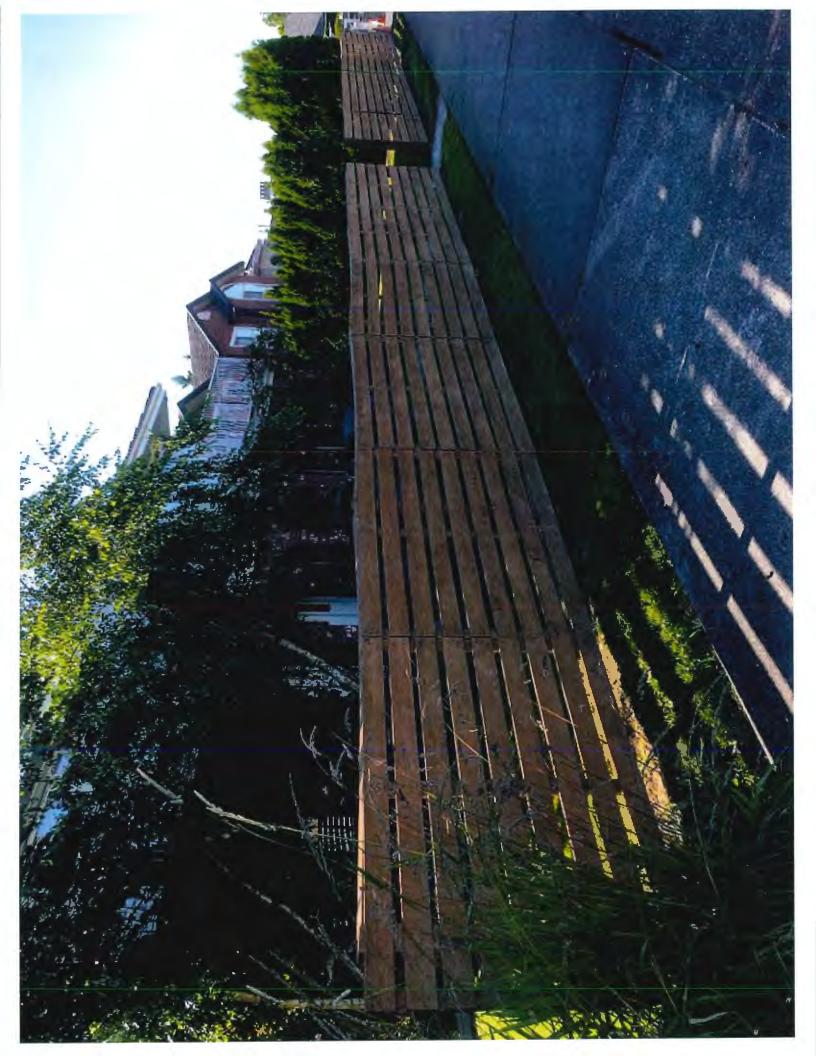
















Future 10100 Severn Drive House Renovation, Extension and Seismic Reinforcement Project-



Before



After

Potential future Upgrade to house: Renovation and extension for rental affordable rental units at the back and new roof supported by columns and beams for seismic reinforcement.

I did the design early this year as a dream incentive to tidy up the property and move on to better things.