

**Mayor and Councillors**

Schedule 132 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, May 15, 2017 and Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

To Public Hearing
Date: MAY 15, 2017
Item # 7
Re: BYLAWS 9706, 9707 9712, 9717

**From:** Martin Woolford  
**Sent:** Monday, 15 May 2017 12:48  
**To:** Mayor and Councillors  
**Subject:** Public hearing on Farmland - Monday May 15, 2017

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing in regards to the Monday, May 15th Public Hearing that will consider amendment bylaws that would allow homes up to 10,764 ft<sup>2</sup> on farmland in Richmond and significantly increase the size of farm house homeplates.

The bylaws currently under consideration will allow homes that are twice as large as Ministry of Agriculture maximum guidelines for Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land, which are set at 500 m<sup>2</sup> (or 5,382 ft<sup>2</sup>).

This will weaken Richmond's agricultural land base and the city's commitment to food security. The bylaw currently under consideration will also be precedent setting for neighbouring communities by further weakening BC's ALR land base through encouraging more residential development on agricultural lands.

Agricultural lands should be kept for farming and not for residential uses. I am writing to ask you to follow Ministry of Agriculture guidelines, as set out in the Guide for Bylaw Development in Farming Areas, and ensure long term food security for Richmond, the Lower Mainland, and BC.

Sincerely,  
Martin Woolford

5951 Egret Court  
Richmond  
B.C.

