

Jesson, Claudia

From: Mei Ping Chan <iam.cmp@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 1:19 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Opposition to the Renewal of the Temporary Supportive Housing at Smith Street and Bridgeport Road

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To Mayor and Members of Richmond City Council,

I am writing as a Richmond resident and homeowner to express my opposition to the proposed renewal of the Temporary Use Permit for the supportive housing located at Smith Street and Bridgeport Road.

I understand that supportive housing plays an important role in helping vulnerable individuals. However, after several years of operation, many residents in the surrounding neighbourhood have experienced ongoing concerns about public safety, property crime, and the overall quality of life.

As someone who owns a home nearby, I do not feel comfortable with the current situation. I want to live in a neighbourhood where residents can safely walk outside, use local parks, and support nearby businesses without constantly worrying about crime or disorder.

Many local businesses have reported repeated theft, vandalism, and property damage. Residents have also shared concerns about open drug use, disruptive behaviour, and feeling unsafe in the area. Regardless of the reasons behind these issues, the surrounding community should not be expected to bear these impacts indefinitely.

I believe Richmond can continue supporting vulnerable people while also protecting the safety and well-being of existing residents. If supportive housing is to continue, the City should carefully evaluate whether the current location and operating model are appropriate and whether stronger safety measures and accountability are needed.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask Richmond City Council to reject the proposed renewal of the Temporary Use Permit and explore alternative solutions that better balance support for vulnerable individuals with the rights and safety of the surrounding community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mei Ping Chan

Richmond Resident and Homeowner

Jesson, Claudia

From: Tong Cui <teresa.cui@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 11:50 AM
To: CityClerk
Cc: MayorandCouncillors
Subject: Opposition to the Renewal of Aster Place Supportive Housing Under a Low-Barrier Drug Use Model

Some people who received this message don't often get email from teresa.cui@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Mayor and Councilors,

My name is Teresa, and I am a Richmond resident, a mother of a one-and-a-half-year-old child, a software engineer, and a taxpayer. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed extension of Aster Place supportive housing.

As a mother, my greatest responsibility is to provide a safe environment for my child. Like many parents in Richmond, I regularly take my son to playgrounds, libraries, schools, and community spaces throughout the city. Over the past few years, I have repeatedly encountered discarded needles and evidence of drug use in places where families and children gather. I have seen them near playgrounds, near libraries, and near schools.

These experiences have already affected my family. This is not a concern about a potential future harm. **The harm is already being felt by families like mine today.**

Every time I take my child outside, I feel the need to be constantly alert. I worry about what may be left on the ground. I worry about unexpected encounters with individuals who are actively using drugs in public spaces. Unfortunately, these encounters are not rare. They happen often enough that many parents have come to accept them as part of daily life, and that should concern all of us.

As my son grows older, I increasingly worry about the message this sends to our children. One day he may ask me, "Mom, what is that person doing?" How should I explain open drug use to a young child? How do I explain why drug use has become a visible and normalized part of the environment in which he lives, learns, and plays? These are conversations that many Richmond parents never expected to have with their children at such a young age.

I have spoken with other parents in our community, and many share the same concerns. We feel anxious, uneasy, and increasingly worried about the direction our community is heading. The impact of drug use is not limited to those who suffer from addiction. It also affects families, children, businesses, and the overall sense of safety and well-being within our city.

Some may argue that Aster Place contains only 40 units and therefore has a limited impact on Richmond as a whole. However, the effects of this model are not confined to a single building. Residents are free to travel

throughout the city, as is their right. As a result, the consequences of policies that permit ongoing drug use are not limited to one address. They are experienced throughout our community.

I want to be very clear: I do not oppose helping people who struggle with addiction. Addiction is a serious and devastating problem, and those affected deserve compassion, dignity, and support.

However, I believe that meaningful support should focus on recovery, treatment, rehabilitation, and helping individuals rebuild their lives. The ultimate goal should be to help people overcome addiction and successfully reintegrate into society. I do not believe that a model which permits ongoing drug use achieves that goal. Providing housing without effectively addressing addiction may manage a symptom, but it does not solve the underlying problem.

As a taxpayer, I am also concerned about how public funds are being used. Every year, I contribute a significant portion of my income in taxes. I support investing those resources in addiction treatment programs, mental health services, recovery programs, counselling, and pathways back to employment and independent living. I do not support continuing to fund a model that allows ongoing drug use while many residents continue to witness its negative impacts on public spaces and community safety.

Most importantly, I do not believe that extending Aster Place for another three years is in the best interest of Richmond residents.

When this project was originally approved, the government was assured that it would provide support while minimizing impacts on the surrounding community. Yet after several years of operation, many of the concerns raised by residents remain unresolved. Families continue to report concerns regarding visible drug use, discarded needles, public safety, and the erosion of the sense of security that residents should be able to expect in their own neighborhoods.

Compassion and accountability are not mutually exclusive. We can help those struggling with addiction without accepting policies that normalize or accommodate ongoing drug use. True compassion means helping people recover from addiction, not simply managing addiction indefinitely.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose the proposed extension of Aster Place and respectfully urge Council to reject the renewal application.

Richmond families deserve communities that are safe, healthy, and focused on recovery-based solutions. Our children deserve parks, libraries, schools, and neighborhoods where they can grow up without being routinely exposed to the consequences of drug use. I ask Council to listen to the concerns of residents, parents, and taxpayers and choose a different path—one that prioritizes treatment, rehabilitation, public safety, and the long-term well-being of both vulnerable individuals and the broader community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Teresa

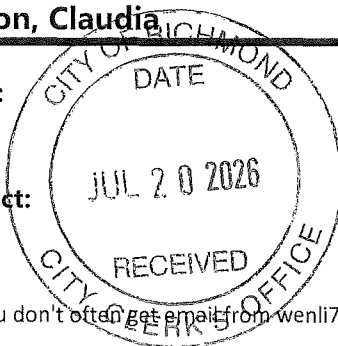
Richmond Resident

ON TABLE ITEM

Date: July 20, 2026
Meeting: Public Hearing
Item: #1

Jesson, Claudia

From: Wen Li <wenli7646@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2026 11:43 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: I Am Voting Against the Renewal of Aster Place



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Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am a Richmond resident and a parent of two children. I am writing to let you know that I am voting against the renewal of Aster Place.

I understand that people struggling with addiction and mental health challenges need support and compassion. However, I do not believe the current location and approach are in the best interest of our community.

My biggest concern is the impact on our children. They should be able to walk through their neighbourhood, visit parks, and enjoy public spaces without being exposed to open drug use or behaviour that makes them feel unsafe. As parents, we work hard to teach our children the importance of making good choices and contributing positively to society. We should be creating an environment that reinforces those values.

Richmond has always been a safe and family-oriented community. I respectfully ask Council to put the safety and well-being of residents, especially our children, first and vote against the renewal of Aster Place.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns.

Sincerely,

Wen Li

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Jesson, Claudia

From: Waifuhobby Team <waifuhobby@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2026 11:36 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Strong Opposition to the Three-Year Renewal of the Temporary Modular Supportive Housing at Smith Street and Bridgeport Road

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To Mayor and Members of Richmond City Council:

I am writing as a resident of Richmond, a taxpayer, and a small business owner to express my strongest opposition to the proposed three-year renewal of the temporary modular supportive housing located at Smith Street and Bridgeport Road.

Over the past several years, our community has experienced a significant decline in public safety and quality of life. From what many residents have observed, a large proportion of the occupants struggle with substance use and other complex challenges. Regardless of the underlying causes, the reality is that the surrounding neighbourhood has been forced to bear the consequences.

Local businesses have suffered substantial economic losses. Business owners have had to deal with repeated theft, vandalism, property damage, and customers who no longer feel safe visiting the area. The number of related incidents has increased compared to previous years. Story Cafe has also reportedly been the target of multiple suspicious fires, causing tremendous hardship for the business and the surrounding community.

I have experienced this firsthand. Last year, my business, **WAIFUHOBBY STUDIO**, was located at the corner of Alderbridge Way and No. 3 Road. The nearby SkyTrain station made it very easy for suspicious individuals to access the area. Almost every day, we saw people walking past our shop shouting and stumbling as if intoxicated. Our store was also the victim of a theft by a suspicious individual, with police file number **000336194**. In the end, we had no choice but to terminate our lease early and relocate. This experience gave me a profound understanding of how difficult it is for small businesses to survive when a community lacks proper safety and security.

Residents are living with constant anxiety. Many people no longer feel safe walking outside after dark. Parents are afraid to let their children play in nearby parks or even walk through the neighbourhood. This is not the kind of community we want to leave to the next generation.

While I recognize the importance of providing support for vulnerable individuals, that responsibility must not come at the expense of the safety, security, and well-being of thousands of law-abiding residents and businesses. Compassion should never require an entire neighbourhood to shoulder disproportionate social and economic burdens.

As taxpayers, we contribute to this city with the expectation that our government will protect public safety, support local businesses, and preserve the quality of life for all residents. Instead, many of us feel that our voices and concerns have been overlooked for years.

I respectfully urge Richmond City Council to **reject the proposed renewal of this Temporary Use Permit**. The current model has had serious impacts on the surrounding community, and extending it for another three years is not an acceptable solution.

Richmond deserves policies that both support vulnerable people and protect the rights and safety of the broader community. I ask Council to seek alternative solutions that do not continue to place this burden on our neighbourhood.

Sincerely,

Gary Zeng

WAIFUHOBBY STUDIO

Jesson, Claudia

From: Alice Edwards <edwardsalice@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2026 9:51 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: comments - July 20 public hearing - Temporary Use Permit (TU 26-011521)

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Hello,

I am a Richmond resident writing in support of the application from the BC Housing Management Commission for the continued operation of the existing 40-unit temporary modular supportive housing development, known as Aster Place, for a period of three years beginning March 15, 2027 (temporary use permit TU 26-011521).

I have read the report from Wayne Craig to the General Purpose Committee that was included with the agenda for the July 20 meeting. There is a clear need for ongoing supportive housing in Richmond.

I find it significant that the use of the property for supportive housing is consistent with the designation of that land in the the Official Community Plan, the City Centre Area Plan, and the Bridgeport Village Land Use Map. I also find it significant that the existing MOU between the City and the operator provides an appropriate mechanism to promptly address any concerns from the community as they arise.

I acknowledge that some Richmond residents (including those who do not live in the area of Aster Place) have raised concerns regarding the ongoing operation of the supportive housing development. I do not see how removing housing for the current residents of Aster Place would in any way alleviate those concerns (assuming that the concerns are based in fact). Concerns about drug use and seeing people sleeping outside will not be addressed by removing these supportive housing spaces. If anything, doing so would increase the number of people forced to live outside because they will not have anywhere else to go. Richmond needs to increase the options for supportive housing, not decrease them.

Personally, I have shopped and travelled in the area of Aster Place many times and have never seen anything to cause concern.

I hope that the Mayor and Council will take a reasoned approach to this matter, rather than being swayed by the few loud people who seem to believe that removing housing will solve homelessness.

Thank you for your time.

Alice Edwards
Edwardsalice@hotmail.com
778-980-8220
302-7560 Moffatt Road

Jesson, Claudia

From: christina li <christina@hotmail.ca>
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2026 4:30 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Opposition to the Proposed Three-Year Renewal of the Temporary Supportive Housing at Aster Place

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Dear Mayor and Members of Richmond City Council,

I am writing as a Richmond resident, homeowner, taxpayer, and local business owner to express my opposition to the proposed three-year renewal of the Temporary Supportive Housing at Aster Place.

I understand that supportive housing plays an important role in helping vulnerable individuals. However, I do not believe that extending the current temporary model for another three years is the right solution.

Over the past several years, many residents living near the site have experienced a noticeable decline in their sense of safety and quality of life. Numerous incidents involving crime, open drug use, vandalism, theft, and emergency responses have been widely reported by residents and local businesses. Whether every incident is directly related to the facility or not, the reality is that many people living and working nearby no longer feel safe.

As a taxpayer, I expect public policy to balance compassion with accountability. Supporting vulnerable people should not come at the expense of the surrounding community. Residents should not have to accept deteriorating neighbourhood conditions as the cost of providing social services.

I respectfully ask Council to consider the following before approving another three-year extension:

- Conduct an independent review of the impacts the facility has had on the surrounding neighbourhood.
- Release transparent public data regarding crime, emergency calls, safety incidents, and community outcomes.
- Develop a long-term solution rather than repeatedly extending what was originally intended to be temporary housing.
- Ensure that neighbourhood safety, business vitality, and residents' quality of life receive equal consideration alongside supportive housing objectives.

Richmond is known as one of the safest cities in British Columbia. I hope Council will make decisions that preserve that reputation while continuing to provide appropriate support for vulnerable individuals through better-planned and more sustainable solutions.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Christina Li
Richmond Resident

Jesson, Claudia

From: Richard Zhu <vanxiaolong@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 18, 2026 8:50 AM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Re:Aster Place

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Hello,

Please stop renewal Aster place 2520 smith St

A Richmond's residential

Richard Zhu