

Schedule 6 to the Minutes of the
Public Hearing meeting of
Richmond City Council held on
Tuesday, September 8, 2015.

From: Michael Seidelman <bat1734@telus.net>
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2015 16:18
To: Weber, David
Subject: Letter for Public Hearing

To Public Hearing
Date: <u>Sept 1, 2015</u>
Item # <u>6</u>
Re: <u>Zoning Bylaw B500</u>
<u>Amend. 9280 : 9281</u>
<u>Building height + massing</u>

Dear Mr. Weber,

I would like to submit this letter to be considered before the Public Hearing on Sept, 8th.

Sincerely,
Michael Seidelman

Dear Council,

If you read the letters section in the Richmond News, Richmond forums on Facebook, or talk to people who grew up in Richmond but now choose to live elsewhere, you'll see that people are disillusioned with what Richmond neighbourhoods are becoming; more concrete and less green space, large out of place homes towering over their neighbours' older but completely liveable homes, and unfriendly metal gates that are anything but neighbourly.

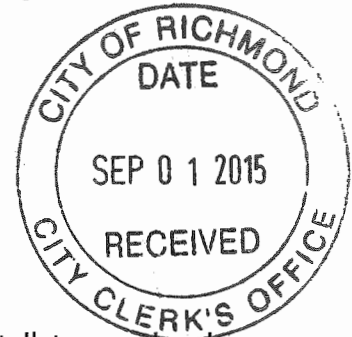
People who grew up in Richmond who want and are able to buy a detached home are buying in other cities like Delta, Ladner or Tsawwassen where reminders of friendly neighbourhoods like those of Richmond's past allow their kids to have a sense of community that they fondly remember having in Richmond. And when they do wish to purchase a home in Richmond, they are often outbid, not by other families who wish to live in the neighbourhood, but by developers who want nothing more than to knock the home down, build a larger one, often invasive to current properties and with less green space and an unwelcome metal gate, and flip it to a new buyer at much higher a cost. And many of those kid's' parents, who wish to remain in the homes that they raised their families in, don't feel like their voices are being heard in regards to the neighbourhoods they have spent many years living in.

Please remember that 35-40 years ago, when the neighbourhoods were originally built, there were structural guidelines for each neighbourhood that were followed so no houses would seem out of place. Now similar guidelines are needed so the new homes that are built fit into these neighbourhoods; currently it seems like the Wild West with no thought or consideration going into new homes so they blend into the existing streets.

Please listen to what the people of Richmond are saying. They have Richmond's best interests in mind while developers care about profits first and foremost. We live in a time where any new home that is built will sell so having those homes fit into the existing neighbourhood, not take away sunlight from their neighbours or take the word "neighbour" out of the word "neighbourhood" makes sense and will sell just as quickly. Developers will still do very strong business and Richmond neighbourhoods will be better for it.

The people of Richmond are counting on you to make the right decision that reflects our concerns for the communities we live in.

Sincerely,



Michael Seidelman
A 35-year resident of Richmond