

MayorandCouncillors

From: Webgraphics
 Sent: Tuesday, 14 April 2015 2:35 PM
 To: MayorandCouncillors
 Subject: Send a Submission Online (response #822)

To Public Hearing Date: <u>April 20, 2015</u> Item #: <u>5</u> Re: <u>Zoning Bylaw 8500,</u> <u>Amendment Bylaw</u> <u>9223</u>
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Send a Submission Online (response #822)

Survey Information

Site:	City Website
Page Title:	Send a Submission Online
URL:	http://cms.richmond.ca/Page1793.aspx
Submission Time/Date:	4/14/2015 2:33:58 PM

Survey Response

Your Name	Westwind owner
Your Address	Westwind
Subject Property Address OR Bylaw Number	RICHMOND ZONING BYLAW 8500, AMENDMENT BYLAW 9223
Comments	<p>To whom it may concern, We are Westwind owners, and one of us has lived in Richmond for most of our lives. I would like our comments to be considered at the public hearing on April 20, 2015 with respect to the bylaw amendment being proposed regarding the height and size of houses in our area. Please first let us start off by saying that we live in one of the original westwind houses built in the 1970's with an approximate floor area of 2000 square feet. We purchased in this area a few years ago, one of the main reasons for doing so was due to the current zoning and allowance for a larger house to be built. Although we do not have plans to tear down our home in the near future, we believe the current zoning and allowances are in large part the reason for our property's value. Because we live in the area we have received a lot of information on this topic both in print media and in the form of unsolicited flyers delivered to our door by the Westwind Ratepayers Association for Positive Development. (Wrapd) In reading this "literature" and in doing our own research we</p>

respectfully disagree with the views of Wrapd, and resent that they are representing themselves as the "voice" of Westwind, not everyone in Westwind agrees with their views even though they allude to that being the case. The flyers and website of the Wrapd association coin the larger houses in our area as "monster" houses and "rooming houses of the dirty 30's". We would like to know what defines a "monster" house and what evidence they have that these houses are being used as rooming houses? In our area all the larger houses are occupied by large families needing the space. Because you cannot have a basement in Richmond often these "third stories" are being used a rec room area for children, if that area was underground would Wrapd still be creating this fuss? And still defining these homes as "monster" houses? Further, given the high prices of real estate we are now seeing a lot more multi generational families occupying a larger single family dwelling. It is near to impossible for young families to purchase a single family home without the aid of their parents/grandparents; sometimes that aid comes in the form of house sharing with the older generation. Not only does this bring a new diverse age group to our neighborhood, it advocates a family togetherness and the helping of one another. To us it just appears that the Warp d group is advocating this bylaw amendment because they may not like the look of these homes and want our area to be stuck in the 1970's. The world changes, neighborhood growth should be welcomed, not dismissed. We would like to emphasize that we do not and will not be represented by Wrapd and completely disagree with their views. We will be attending the Public Hearing however, will not be speaking as we fear retaliation from the Wrapd group, it appears they believe that their views are the correct views and don't wish to be challenged by anyone. They've even gone as far as taking pictures of the newer houses in our area without the permission of the owners and plastering those photos all over flyers circulated to Westwind owners. Furthermore, they have invited media to do stories on their "association" in front of houses under construction again without the consent of the owners. This is far from neighbourly, and certainly not the type of community that Westwind strives to be. We welcome new families, new growth and new neighbours into our community. The smaller houses from the 1970's are not going to last forever and are not going to be sufficient for growing families. Respectfully, Westwind owners