

## **Mayor and Councillors**

Schedule 70 to the Minutes of  
the Public Hearing meeting of  
Richmond City Council held on  
Tuesday, September 8, 2015.

To Public Hearing	
Date:	SEPT. 8 2015
Item #	6
Re:	BYLAWS 9280+ 9281

**From:** Denise McDougal <dmcDougal@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, 7 September 2015 17:21  
**To:** Mayor and Councillors  
**Subject:** House Massing open House Sept 8th

**Categories:** 12-8060-20-9280

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am very concerned about the huge houses that one is allowed to build in Richmond. I am very much in favour of 12' limits to ceiling heights.

I am also very concerned about houses being built that change the character of a neighbourhood, e.g., the Westwind area. Other cities have bylaws concerning this. For example, in the Mount Pleasant area of Vancouver, north of 16th Ave, homes cannot be torn down but are renovated to maintain the heritage character of the neighborhood. Wherever I go in the Lower Mainland, I do not see these huge ugly houses that developers are allowed to build in Richmond.

Besides the aesthetic quality (or rather lack thereof and I do admit that beauty is in the eye of the beholder), I am very concerned with the energy usage in these megahomes, not only the quantity of lights but also the heating requirements especially because heat rises and these homes have such high ceilings. We need to all be tending toward a smaller footprint.

Also of extreme dismay is the lack of green space - all megahomes I have seen have much hardscape in their yards when environmentally we each need to be increasing our greenspace as much as possible.

Developers speak of people not wanting to live in old homes and wanting modern luxuries. I understand and agree with this as a modern home should be more energy efficient but I do not see how this equates to such huge homes, which may also be disconcerting to their neighbours who are now more lacking in natural light and privacy.

Please, we as a city need to be encouraging (yes, even regulating!) a much greener approach!

Please apply this letter to the Sept 8, 2015, public hearing.

Denise McDougal  
Richmond

