## CityClerk

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, May 17, 2021.

From:

kathy tung <kathytung328@gmail.com>

Sent:

May 4, 2021 10:23 PM

To:

CitvClerk

Subject:

Public hearing of temporary commercial use permit TU 20-905119

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Norman Kwan. I'm the president of 1083512 BC Ltd which owns 2780 No.3 Road.

I highly object to the permit of allowing a night market event at <u>8351 River Road</u> between <u>May 21st to December 31</u>, <u>2021</u>.

- 1) It allows huge amount of people gathering and eating in a venue even it's open space. It pose high risk of COVID 19 to the community around. Patrons would not be wearing mask while eating. From past experience, it is not possible to maintain the proper social distancing and there are way too many food stalls and kiosks in the venue and I do not trust the organizer is able to maintain proper hygiene and enforce public health requirement as from what I observed from night market before. It's always messy, chaotic and dirty.
- 2) The congestion of traffic on No.3 Road and Bridgeport on Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays <u>starting 6pm to 10pm</u>did tremendous impact to businesses on No.3 Road and the area close to night market from last few years. Instead of enjoying busy weekend with venues full of customers like most other businesses in summer, the restaurants in the area were empty as the congestion in traffic turned customers away. There's parking allowed on No.3 Road & streets around so how would customers come to the businesses at all. The economic damage to businesses around is unfair as they are tax payers contributing the city as well. The only party largely benefits from the night market is the organizer who obviously is making huge amount of money but is it fair to others at all? So the business owners around it have to be treated unfairly because they are small business owners? They have to absorb the entire financial burden again! Businesses have suffered badly due to COVID and a summer without enough customers would kill all of them.
- 3. It doesn't make sense to have night market until December at all. If the city is still ignoring the risk of spreading COVID & not complying with public health and ignoring the tremendous damage to at least 50% of revenue for businesses around, it should only grant them to operate until Labour Day as people have to go back to regular routines after summer any way and it's only fair to businesses around to resume their regular business to survive!!!
- 4. Parking should be allowed on No.3 Road, Beckwith road, Sexsmith Road, Douglas street during night market as customers of businesses around have to park too! Night market should not open before 8pm to allow businesses around serving enough customers to survive before the traffic gets worse. Night market should detour their patrons not to use No.3 Road and Bridgeport street to enter and exit the market. Instead they should only use Great Canadian Way and River Road which can help to ease the damages to businesses around the area.
- 5. Number of food stalls and booths should be reduced to 50% capacity just like all other businesses in province to minimize the risk of spreading COVID according to public health. They have to limit number of patrons to 50% as well by only selling that number of tickets. No one should be allowed walk in without pre purchasing tickets. COVID protocols must be strictly enforced. Every patron must maintain 6 feet social distancing. There should not be congregation allowed at the night market at all. I am not sure how this can be enforced as people all seemed to gather together to eat from past experience.

Thank you for your attention.

Norman Kwan