

Schedule 3 to the Minutes of the
Public Hearing meeting of
Richmond City Council held on
Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

From: John Byers <johnbyers2008@gmail.com>
Sent: February 17, 2022 10:53 AM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, Amendment Bylaw10014

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To the City council,

We received the letter about the amendment bylaw to protect and preserve rental housing in Richmond, and fully support this action. My wife and I have lived in the Fraser Place complex on Seventh Avenue since 1985. I myself grew up on Mitchell Island for 20 years in a rented house, then moving to a rental condo on Colonial Drive after that.

I believe that it is extremely important that these properties are protected, and in fact more buildings need to be built. Richmond is rapidly becoming a city that only the wealthy can afford to live in. This needs to change, and this amendment is a small but vital first step.

I understand this is a complex issue, and all levels of governments will need to address the issues facing Richmond and the lower mainland. Richmond needs to serve a diverse community of all economic levels, not just the rich. This city needs more rental stock that will accomodate people on limited incomes. Putting aside apartments renting at "market rates" in new developments is just not good enough.

Richmond can not afford to continue down the path it has taken. Businesses can not attract new employees who can not find affordable housing in this city. As I said, this amendment is a good first step, but much more needs to be done. The people camping out on Vulcan Way and other city streets deserve the opportunity to have an affordable housing option.

Thank you for the opportunity to let us have our say in this matter.

Fran and John Byers
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