

**Mayor and Councillors**

Schedule 10 to the Minutes of the  
Public Hearing meeting of  
Richmond City Council held on  
Monday, July 17, 2017.

To Public Hearing
Date: JULY 17, 2017
Item # 7
Re: BYLAW 9737

**From:** Sharon MacGougan <sharonmacg@telus.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, 17 July 2017 14:23  
**To:** Mayor and Councillors  
**Subject:** Public Meeting July 17

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

July 17, 2017

Re: Building Massing

I support changes to the current building bylaw. It's long overdue and neighbourhoods could only benefit when the guiding principle becomes livability.

Concerning citizens have been advocating over the past two years for the following changes:

- Increase rear yard setbacks
- Plant at least two trees
- Eliminate side yard projections
- Restrict unwelcoming entry gates and walls
- Increase greenspace and live landscaping
- Reduce large projecting garages

Not all of these changes have not been included in the staff recommendations. But, let's go ahead with what changes have been proposed. Some change is better than none.

I understand that the builder's group is doing last minute lobbying to water down or eliminate change. Builders are an important part of our community but they are not in charge of what our community looks like or what livability means. Richmond has extremely competent planning staff. They don't make frivolous recommendations. They took input from builders as well as all other interested parties. Intense last minute lobbying is a pressure tactic. But it doesn't have to be an effective one.

We are asking for simple things, like backyard privacy and livability. Those are qualities that make neighbourhoods strong.

At our recent Garden City Conservation Society AGM someone asked: Why is it always so hard? We were talking about conservation wishes for the future.

Why do people have to work so hard when all they are trying to do is strengthen neighbourhoods and sense of community? Please vote in support of change.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon MacGougan  
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