

Schedule 65 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, December 17, 2018.

ON TABLE ITEM

Date: December 17, 2018
Meeting: Public Hearing
Item: #5

MayorandCouncillors

From: Jim McDowell <jemcdowell@shaw.ca>
Sent: Monday, 17 December 2018 06:47
To: MayorandCouncillors
Subject: FARMHOUSE SIZE

Categories: - TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a Richmond resident, I have been extremely disappointed in the growing issue of mansions on Richmond's ALR lots. Not only is this an inappropriate use of prime farmland, it has increased speculative development, led to illegal activities in these mansions, and continues to be the driving source of skyrocketing land values for agriculturally zoned land. I am writing to ask that at Monday night's Public Hearing, you vote for 400 m2 (over 4,300 sq ft) as the maximum house size on ALR properties in Richmond.

400 m2 was determined by Richard Wozny to be THE APPROPRIATE FARMHOUSE SIZE FOR RICHMOND to reduce speculation on agricultural land and to divert residential uses to city lots, as it is in line with the maximum house sizes on Richmond's city lots.

It is essential that Richmond takes this step to be seen as a leader in farmland preservation, no longer bowing to developer and real estate interests. There is no need to allow all ALR land owners to build a mansion, as bonafide farmers have always had the option to apply for a larger home through the Agricultural Land Commission.

House size is one of the largest determinants of the cost of farmland, and by taking this step you will reverse a dangerous course. Please do the right thing and vote for 400 m2.

My vote in the next municipal election will be determined entirely by your vote on this issue.

Sincerely,
James E. McDowell
231-5700 Andrews Road



Richmond, BC)

jemcdowell@shaw.ca