

Schedule 6 to the minutes of the  
Regular Council meeting for Public  
Hearings held on Monday, October  
15, 2012

October 15, 2012

Mayor and Councillors,  
City of Richmond

Regarding Item # 8: rezoning West Cambie Natural Park from natural area to residential under OCP amendment by-law #8945.

I wish to register my opposition to the proposed change in the OCP for several reasons:

1. Although not a member of the Garden City Lands Coalition, I have read the Coalition comments on "viewscape" northwards from the Garden City Lands, and concur completely with the GCLC that preserving the natural viewscape would indeed maintain an important asset for the city.

- residents.

- tourism.

2. The proposed change will extinguish a significant area of natural habitat, habitat that is particularly valuable to the survival of songbirds such as wrens, swallows, hummingbirds, flycatchers, nuthatches,, thrushes, warblers, finches, etc.

Songbird populations world wide are crashing, many species now at 20% of the numbers two or three decades ago. Richmond is not exempt from this trend. A significant factor is loss of habitat as natural areas are demolished for residential and commercial expansion.

- residential: older homes with large area of lot in trees & shrubs replaced by new residences with no natural plantings.

-commercial: older industrial complexes included green areas (e.g. Crestwood) replaced with industrial complexes nothing but buildings and pavement, no natural habitat.

3. Rapidly increasing scarcity of natural areas throughout the City and Metro Vancouver, makes any green space is becoming intensely valued.

4. West Cambie Natural Park exists on OCP - why has the City not acquired this property as a public asset?

Thnak you.

Respectfully,  
Derril Gudlaugson,  
8351 Fairfax Place,  
Richmond