

# ON TABLE ITEM

Date: May 16 2022  
Meeting: Public Hearing  
Item: #1

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, May 16, 2022.

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Sent: Monday, 16 May 2022 15:08

To: MayorandCouncillors <[MayorandCouncillors@richmond.ca](mailto:MayorandCouncillors@richmond.ca)>; CityClerk <[CityClerk@richmond.ca](mailto:CityClerk@richmond.ca)>

Subject: Submission - Public Hearing May 16, Item 1

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Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing to express my opposition to Item 1 of the May 16 Public Hearing for 25 Townhouses at No 2 rd and Blundell Road.

Currently, the 6 homes on this site are being rented and the properties contain some significant trees. This proposed development is right across from the Blundell Mall on the corner of two main roads, "kitty corner" to another commercial property.

I was speaking to councillors of other municipalities such as Port Moody and they stopped approving townhouses many years ago because they are not affordable and do not meet the requirements of the housing needs assessment. Vancouver is approving developments that are 70% rental and 30% strata. Other municipalities are acting faster than Richmond on housing; we are falling far behind and displacing long-time residents in the process.

Councillors speak about needing supply, but more townhouses are not the supply we need. 95% of Richmond residents cannot afford a townhouse. What we see with these rezonings is often a reselling of the approved land assembly, the houses get torn down and then the property can remain empty or resold and this can go on for years. Especially with the market on a down-turn, it's likely this project could stall. I would much rather see renters be able to stay in the home they rent and wildlife be able to use these trees until a more progressive, current and thoughtful proposal comes forward for these properties. These could be multi-story, mixed commercial, rental, strata - much like the property in development at Number 3 road and Williams. It could be stacked one level apartments with the significant trees retained as shared yard space; there are many options that could be proposed if council could have the willingness to ask for better.

If Richmond city council is at all serious about developing the city to be a liveable, affordable and desirable place for all of our residents and wage earners, you would say no to new townhouses which start at \$1.5 - \$1.7 million dollars.

Thank you,  
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