

Schedule 42 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, October 16, 2017.

To Public Hearing
Date: <u>Oct 16, 2017</u>
Item # <u>9</u>
Bylaw <u>9062, 9063</u>

MayorandCouncillors

From: Kevin Skipworth <kevin@skipworth.ca>
Sent: Saturday, 7 October 2017 08:49
To: MayorandCouncillors
Cc: info@waterfrontrezoning.com; Badyal,Sara
Subject: I support the rezoning of 4020 Bayview Street - Imperial Landing in Steveston!

Name: Kevin Skipworth
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Dear Mayor and Council

I fully support this proposal as outlined and would like to finally see a resolve for the empty commercial space at Imperial Landing in Steveston.

For more than 4 years now this has been an eye sore for our community. It is an embarrassment that the community, civic government and stakeholders could not come to an agreement to move forward with viable options. Maritime industry in Steveston is not what it once was. This community does an amazing job of showcasing its heritage and history. Something that we appreciate and share with many people. But for a space that has been non-existent in terms of maritime industry for decades, why must we suffer with this view that it can be forced back? In so many other locations in Steveston change has been allowed. Yet this location is completely off limits? There were arguments that a grocery store or other commercial businesses will hurt the smaller shops of Steveston. Yet when the site where Rod's Building Supply was located was put to rezoning to include a grocery store, there was no objection. The time spent trying to get a day care into this site when no other space was available created stress and a lot of extra work for parents and a business owner who contributed to the well-being of our community. While it was eventually spot rezoned to allow the daycare in this one location, it came at the expense of those pushing for it. Change was allowed and look what it brought – a positive result. And now if they wanted to expand their space to provide for a growing need of child care (The YWCA at Homma is no longer available), it can't happen because it is not a "Maritime" business and the remainder of the location won't allow for this under the current zoning.

For too long, this has been a stale mate over a developer perceived to be not in tune with the community and an industry which is not viable here in Steveston. If it's about money and the \$2.3 Million contribution isn't enough, then I would like there to be a comparison to what other rezoning applications in Steveston has brought to the city in terms of contributions. Regardless of the type of rezoning or within the OCP, the playing field should be level.

It's time to move forward. It's time to show that we can be a forward thinking community.

Thank you,
Kevin

