

SCHEDULE 8 TO THE MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR  
PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD ON MONDAY,  
JANUARY 18, 2010.

**Steeves, Susan**

**From:** Johnson, Gail  
**Sent:** January 18, 2010 5:44 PM  
**To:** Steeves, Susan  
**Subject:** Fw: Public Hearing-Hamilton Bus Maintenance Facility

<b>To Public Hearing</b>
<b>Date:</b> Jan 18, 2010
<b>Item #</b> 2
<b>Re:</b> Bylaw 8557

**From:** T. Plotnikoff <terrylp@telus.net>  
**To:** Johnson, Gail  
**Sent:** Mon Jan 18 17:41:54 2010  
**Subject:** Public Hearing-Hamilton Bus Maintenance Facility

Please include the following letter that I sent to the City of New Westminster in your feedback from the public regarding the Public Hearing-Hamilton Bus Maintenance Facility. Thank you.

Dear Honourable Mayor and City Council for New Westminster,

I am writing a short letter to you today to express concern over the transit bus maintenance and storage facility proposed for the Tree Island property across Boundary Road from the Starlight Casino in Queensborough. I attended the Residents' Association meeting last week to learn more about what was being proposed and to find out how the City was responding to the proposal for the Richmond property.

Apart from the traffic problems that might occur as a result of so many buses traveling through the Howes St. interchange and along Boyd St., (particularly on nights when the proposed Night Market, if successful, is in operation), I have serious concerns over the amount of pollution that might be generated at the facility itself. At the meeting, a resident who used to work for the bus company said that his job was to start the buses each morning, and that by the time the last bus has been started and they have been idling for over 2 hours, that the cloud of black diesel fumes is so thick it's sickening. If this practice is still continuing today, that is very disturbing to me as a resident not far from the facility.

I am also concerned not only for my own health and that of my children, but am worried about the impact environmentally of such an operation, in particular, the idling buses. As you know, the property is right on the Fraser River, and that shoreline in particular is a haven for wildlife, especially waterfowl that feed there during the tide changes. It is not uncommon to see Herons, Ducks, Geese, and Bald Eagles feeding in that area. At the edge of the property where the bus yard is proposed to be, is an active Bald Eagles nest that must require some type of protection from this kind of pollution. Although I understand that the property is zoned industrial and I completely see the need for a central location for the bus facility, if idling buses are going to be there and negatively impacting the sensitive environment around it, then I think it is imperative that an environmental assessment also be required (if it is not in the works already).

I hope you take an aggressive stand against this proposal in defence of maintaining the quality of life for Queensborough residents and for the environment and creatures around us.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Terry! Plotnikoff  
147 Phillips St.  
New Westminster, BC  
V3M 6Z5



18/01/2010