

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Sheila Potter. I live at 931 Pembroke St, and I am part of a group called Victoria Friends of Central Park. We are concerned that Central Park users are not being properly accounted for in the project-planning for Crystal Pool, and the park itself is not being properly valued.

I want to start by saying that I am big fan of council and all the hard work you do. Also, we're excited for a new Crystal Pool and love the work that is being done to the design. Finally, we accept the downsides, like construction noise for years, extra traffic on our street, a bigger building, higher taxes and other needs that will go unmet because of the priority of the pool.

However, we are really loath to see destruction of green space in the core of the city go towards parking. And we are not convinced that it makes good sense to move the building over and destroy the current park. We are baffled that the cost of replacing the park and losing greenspace is not part of the calculation for moving the pool.

We believe that the planning and consultation has been too pool-centric. You've asked current pool users what they would like, and then built your plans around their requests without considering the full cost to the community.

Over the past 3 weeks, we've talked to about 325 people in the park. Most everyone was aware of the plans to rebuild, but only 5 people were aware that the pool was going to move over and the park destroyed. One of those people worked at the pool. When asked if losing green space is worth parking, people said no way. If you ask if non-interruption of service to swimmers is worth losing this particular park, they also said no. We have here 305 signatures of people who say they support saving the park in its current location, and do not support surface parking, and do not mind interruption of service to swimming. In fact, most people expected interruption of service, so that was not a hard sell.

On June 2, we joined the city of Victoria Parks and Recreation staff at the North Park Neighbourhood Association street party to begin engaging people about what they want as a priority for Central Park's potential re-build. To start the conversation about why we were seeking input to a new park, we had to explain that the Crystal Pool building was moving, and that the 1/3 of the current greenspace could become parking or subsidized housing. (I'm counting the portion from the basketball courts to the softball diamonds on the south side of the park, since the current plans call for up to 140 parking spaces to go in the hole created by the old pool) Some people told us they had joined the city's engagement sessions, but were frustrated because the city's questions were so constrained to the pool that they had no opportunity to voice concerns over land-use. People told us they feel patronized, like they were toddlers given the choice of choosing the colour of the medicine you want them to drink.

The conversation is more illuminating if instead of asking people what kind of a pool they want, you ask them to rank their priorities and what they'd be willing to lose: greenspace, 50-m pool, ease of parking, current park, interruption of service, subsidized housing. I'm here to report that you might be surprised at the public's views on this. First, people are incredulous about the parking. Next, they say if the city reduces green space, it will never come back. This was demonstrated by Mayor Lisa Helps comments in

the *Times Colonist* about her suggestion to build low-cost housing. She said that you might as well put a complex there, "Especially when that footprint would be for parking anyway." I'm not faulting the mayor for an interesting and laudable suggestion, but I think this shows the principle: The park is not even gone yet, and the impediment to development is diminished. Ask yourself, can you sell this if you say, "let's build housing on this playground."

I love the park. I can witness from my window that it is used from 6:30 in the morning all year round. The southern exposure invites families in the winter. I don't have to tell you it is vibrant, multicultural, and the mix of activities especially suits parents with small children. I estimate that at any time, there are about 10 people in it, so more than 43,000 people a year visit it. I can see user groups who you have not consulted: seniors doing Tai Chi and other martial arts, summer camps, daycare groups, local schools, boot-camps, tennis players and instructors, pick-up basketball and parents.

Finally, during the time you've been planning the pool, there has been a welcome influx of an Arab community. Years ago I travelled to Syria, and one of my fondest impressions of that country were these lovely public walkways in places like Damascus and Palmyra, where families with small children liked to go on a promenade in the early evening, seeing and being seen and greeting neighbours. I am beyond heart-warmed to see that developing here in our park.

I believe that you don't always luck out with a public space this way. City planners dream about and fail at designing the urban cool that you've achieved with the Steve Nash court, which is a ready-built youth zone. You can't just and fill in the hole on the back of the building (the North side) without the lovely trees and be able to re-create this, especially if you take most of it for parking.

The reason given for moving the building over seems short-sighted in the extreme – no interruption to swimming service. It is understandable that swimming clubs might request that, but I believe it is too much of a luxury to provide when it comes at the price of destroying this public space.

Where ever the building goes, the overall greenspace should not be diminished. We are talking millions of dollars of precious green space in an area slated for density. This is not planning for the future. I think the citizens I met on Saturday are right – once it is gone, it will never come back.

I truly feel bad that council has proceeded with much planning, and is maybe taken by surprise by this opposition, just as we were surprised at the park situation. However, this could have been avoided with direct mailing to neighbours and signage, like the kind you enforce for developers, which made the losses more clear to neighbours, and your planning de-risked. In the last week, the city staff has realized that this process was flawed and are beginning to put signage up in the park and solicit information about what people like about the park. However, like the open houses for the pool, citizens will be constrained. They can only have input to a process that will begin after the Crystal Pool is built. Council's decision to move the pool seems to have been made without an honest try at gauging public value of the park.

Given this oversight into the value of the park and true cost of the pool, I'm asking council to re-consider rebuilding the pool on its current site, with paid parking above or below the pool. I understand this

means interruption to pool user service, but this loss is offset with uninterrupted service to the park, and the value of the green space to the future generations when the new Crystal Pool is old and crumbling.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Potter

Per

Dear Mayor and council,

I support saving Central Park instead of building a new pool on top of it, and expanding a parking lot where the old pool was. I prefer saving the park as it is, even if that means no swimming here while the city tears down the old pool to build the new pool on its current site. I support the creation of a public consultation process that proactively engages all effected user groups.

Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Anny Calunillo	Quadra	
Greg Kembail	Colwood	
Deirdre Gotto	Quadra	
ALLAN GALLUPE	Quadra	
David Rose	North Park	
Brandi Foster	North Park	
Laurena Jobe	Fernwood	
Sheema Jackson	Quadra	
Cassie Harker	North Park	
DARREN MARR	NORTH PARK	
Louise Negri	Quadra	
Jamila Cruz	Fernwood	
SHELLEY BAART-GAYLOR	FERNWOOD	
Brett Gaylor	Fernwood	
MARK VAN ARMAN	FERNWOOD	
TODD DOWD	N. PARK	
Mel Groves	North Park	
Felix Jensen	N. Park	
Tanya Ledue	North Park	
Jen Kyffin	North Park	

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Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Chris Fisher	Quadra Village	
Outreach Services	Gorge Rd	
Jen Thorndale	Cook St. Village	
Preston Bird	Fernwood	
Cliff Taylor	Fernwood	
Frank Stutler	Fernwood	
Mike Soper	Fairfield	
Carrie Parsons	Oak Bay	
Sheena Sommers	Vic West	
Lucy Paga	Seclan town	
Monika Lindgren	Shawnigan	
Gail Smith	Fairfield	
Curtis Smith	Victoria	
D. Maris Brix	Saanich	
Andrew Brix	Victoria	
Julie Berthiaume	Victoria	
Sophie Lalonde	Victoria	
Denise Ellen	Vernon	
Sebastien Michaud	North Park	
Kev Ram	Gordon Head	
MARUSSA CHAP	Downtown Victoria	
Elle Hall	Downtown Victoria	
Kevin Lee	Oak Bay	
GRANDE LE COCH	Oak Bay	
Chita Loring	280 FERGUSON	
Ken Chang	Victoria	
Roy Yang	Victoria	
Jack Wu	Victoria	
Wes Carroll	Victoria	
Jesse Siemann	Victoria	
Brett Schermann	Victoria	
Leshauna Ingram	Quadra Village	
Vanessa Bradley	Quadra Village	
Ilse Kilan	Quadra Village	
JESS KOSIATOK	QUADRA VILLAGE	
Julie Gennai	North Jubilee	
Miguel Gutierrez	Quadra	

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name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
DANIEL STRICKTON	CRAMM	
Olivia Sibianova	Fernwood	
Liliid Shlyter	Victoria	
MATTHEW Love	VICTORIA	
COLTON HYLAND	VICTORIA	
Maheen Arif	Victoria	
Hanadi Ponsford	Victoria	
Jafar Ponsford	Victoria	
Aleena Ponsford	Victoria	
TATIANA Shlyter	Victoria	
Evan Sinclair	Victoria	
Lauren Wright	Victoria	
Lucas Taylor	Fernwood	
Hannah DaSilva	Vic West	
Andrew Fortune	Victoria	
Irene Fischer	Pembroke St. Victoria	
Mark Hall	Pembroke St Vic	
Gwyneth M. Hall	Vancouver	
Dorothy Ghee	North Park	
Jessica Hallman	North park	

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I support saving Central Park instead of building a new pool on top of it, and expanding a parking lot where the old pool was. I prefer saving the park as it is, even if that means no swimming here while the city tears down the old pool to build the new pool on its current site.

name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Eric Hallman	North Park	
Andrew/Kincaid	North Park	
JODI SIGSWORTH	NORTH PARK	
David cardinal	vic west	
Tracey Cardin	vic west	
Wendy Macdonald	Fernwood	
Sandy Cagoco	Courtney	
Kent Mendez	Courtney	
Jason Chen	Cedar Hill	
Frank Ruckay	Downtown	
JARED WALSH	Downtown	
VIOLET VICE	Downtown	
Jon Belliveau	James Bay	
Alyssa Hansen	Langford	
Guangya Chen	Royal oak	
NESAR		
Jawad Abazid		
AlBaraa AlHamsi		
Qais Abaseel		
Amer Al Hasi		

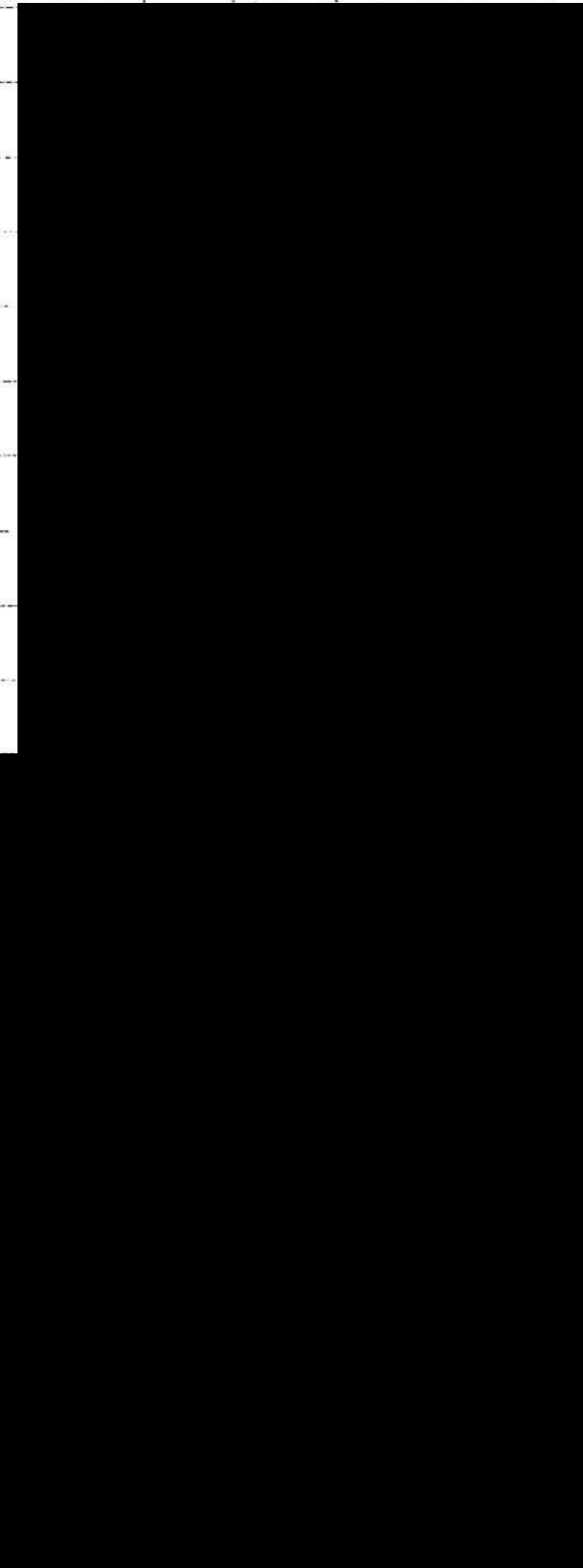
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Name	Email or phone (optional)	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Sydney Chan		Victoria	
Holly Smith		Fairfield	
Alea Miller		Quadra Village	
Lily Krantz		Quadra Village	
Zoe Bider		Quadra Vil	
Dalix Elder		Quadra vil	
Maurits Vos		Quadra Village	
Fahaci			
Mark Lowe		Quadra Village	
Eric Tindberg		Victoria	
Bob Mentzel		Victoria	
Peter Chan		Saanich	
Trl Mapanac		Quadra	
Augustin Chew		Victoria	
Wigfried AKAKPOVI		Quadra	
Andrew Higgins		Quadra	
T/1/15 K. HOFER			
Daniel Delong		Saanich	
Joe Diaz		Victoria	
Dogs Agardn		DAVID	
Mr. Rosales		Mr. Rosales	

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Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Takumi Adachi	Esplanade Ave	
Jonathan McKenzie		
Michael Lopez		
Jeremy Speller		
Graydon Martin		
Muhammad Mawana	View Royal	
Hassan Mohamed		
Da House		
Dan Piacente		
Kirk Burger		
Marshall Teichrob		
Michael Chernoff		
Tessa Ives		
Bryan Elder	Esquimalt	
Daniel	Downtown	
Ashton Meuser	Quadra	
Jen Brown		
Mantes Bonifacio	McKenzie	
PEDRALDO PINEDA	McKENZIE	
Caridad Pineda	-do-	
Pichmond Pineda	McKenzie	

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Name	Email or phone (optional)	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
JESSE GIBSON		NORTH PARK	
Brian Cameron		✓	
Jos Soto		✓	
ANARA A.		NORTH Park	
Rimma A		NORTH PARK	
Michael Moss		u u	
Kevin Widdrich		Saanich	
Emilia Frederich		Saanich	
BRYAN RINGHEIM		SAANICH	
Nick Fairbanks		Victoria	
Kurtis Ritchie		Victoria	
Alex		YU	
Kat Palmateer		Quadra	
Kara Taylor		Esquimalt	
Colin Roberts		LeKungen Esquimalt Victoria	
ALAN TURK		VICTORIA	
M. Dodd		Esquimalt	
WILLIAM ALBRESS		FERWOOD	
SABATIER Anthony		Victoria	
Gillian Jefferson		ferwood	
DALEEN BLEGGEN		VICTORIA WESTSIDE	

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Name	Email or phone (optional)	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Nest Arnoldo			
Danrelo Dominguez			
Alex Orona			
Kyle Cepilla			
Daniel Prieta			
Carlo Samson			
Seth Brooks		Quadrant + Hillside	
Gabriel Dault		Quadrant + McKenzie	
Antech		Gordon Head	
ALINSAI		CALL BAY	
Leah Hunt		Gordon Head	
Hannah Deng			
Amirco HERRERA		GORDON HEAD	
Felix			
Earl Velasco		Shelbourne	
daigo watanabe		Lanich	
Ryo Hagiwara		Saich	
Bryan Lucas		North Park	
Almi Lucas		North Park	
Fulton Hagreen		Quadrant Hillside	
Abraham Khany		Quadrant Village	

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Name	Email or phone (optional)	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Carolyn Barlee		Crystal Peak	
Tracey Hamm		James Bay	
Stacey Sinclair		Esquimalt	
Joel Hamm		James Bay	
Jeff Doyle		Terrwood	
Tyrone Tina		Pembroke	
Angel Liao		James Bay	
Primo Mergal		Victoria	
Niall Murphy		Saanich	
Nick Stewart		Saanich	
Brendan Smith		Victoria	
Ker			
Theresa W.		Quadrant/hillside	
Yu Okazaki			
Risako Sugawara			
Yuli Kim			
Singh Sidh		Downtown	
Ben Pettit		Gordon Head	
Paul Michael Pelletier		Nikeville area	
Mia Angus.		Brentwood Bay	
Katsuko Angus		Brentwood Bay	

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Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
WILL OLSEN		
Camryn Chayler		
Melochy Baker		
Angela Campbell		
Peter Dowse		
Matt Sutherland		
Aurora Hernandez		
Max Stewart	SAANICH	
Eylan Gayler	SAANICH	
Cennor Gayler	SAANICH	
Akins Smith	Victoria	
Johan McLeah	Victoria	
LEO PINSONNAULT	SAANICH	
Adam Eardley	Victoria (Oceanside)	
Taylor Chan	Victoria	
Aaron Wang	Victoria	
Joshua Smith	Victoria	
Nico Pogi	Victoria	
Jydes Maniebo	Victoria	
Scott Kwan	Victoria	

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Name	Email or phone (optional)	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Sean Kahil		North Park	
Hawa Diallo		Quadra Village	
Gary Dawson & his		Caledonia mark st	
Sasha H		Quadra Village	
Robert W.		Quadra village	N/A
Eric W		Quadra Village	
Everlie		Quadra Village	
Nini Vega		" "	
Zhk Benjamin		" "	
Faye Blackburn		James bay	
Nicole Gagnon		Quadra Village	
Marnie Dangerfield		Saanich	
Anna Voshuvska		Fernwood	
Kelly McFinn		Quadra	
DAVE SPENCE		Langford	
Erica Fortado		Quadra	
Cheryl Salmon		Saanich	
K + Dence		" "	
Lisa Sahlas		Oak Bay	
Carolyn Gistome		North Park	

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Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Shakira K.		
Everli de Caballero		
Keir Pon		
Imen Kohn		
Gita John-Dyran		
Nabeela		
in 23		
Rafael		
h. 559		
Zino		
toufik		
MM	V8T 2J5	
AMIA L MASHA		
Jamie		
NE2 H2	V8X 1V2	
Jessica		
Matthew		
Kevin		
Jeff Elom	V8T 3Y6	
Steven Chau		
ALF		

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Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Maya Cardinal	vic west BC	
Sophia Kachil	North park	
Sheik Potter	North park	
Brooke Gallupe	North Park	
Victor FEED	Vancouver	
JENEMIAH ANUSMONG	NORTH PARK	
CHIARA ARRIGONI	NORTH PARK	
Dennis Marchand	Bay Deeg	
Alam Sidhu		
Raymarx Dalagu		
Ryan Conway	DT	
James Bowen	Quarha St	
Chanah Sandell	SAANICH	
Rob Rao	NORTH Park	
Mohanta Ahnua	Brentwood Bay	
Abdulmomin	Quadra village	
Jaamal Yusuf	Gordon Head	
Keneto Andaler	North Park	
Reilene Edwards	Gordon Park court	
Sandra Dunker	Downtown	
BILLY ALDPRESS	FERNWOOD	
Victoria Lee	North Park	

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Name	Neighbourhood	Email or phone (optional)
Jon Leney	Gorge	
Kris MacLellan	North Park	
Weggen Kot.	North Park	
Chengjian Wen	Yafen Mu	
Nikici Moir	Quadra	
Justin Callasec	Quadra	
Candice Rausen	raysken	-
Kiozi Masala	James Bay	
Graeme Bernier	Quadra Village	
Georges Bernier	Quadra Village	
Charles A. Mafos	Cook Village	
Dax Bastillo	Fairview Rd	
MARKE BASTILLON	Essex St.	
Terod Lesosak	North Park	
Missy Pangan	Quadra Village	
Kylie Nelson	James Bay	
Stephen Mackay	Fairview	
Dana Nelson	Esquimalt	

From Spring Ridge ~~Forest~~
By Email

Dear [Name],

[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, appearing to be a letter or email body.]

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[illegible]