Pamela Martin

From: Sent: To: Subject: Mark Paquette August 1, 2018 10:40 AM Public Hearings re proposed changes to 1622-1628 store st

Hello my name is Dr. Mark Paquette. I am a resident of 514 Swift st, which sits beside 1622-1628 store st.

This email is in lieu of my personal voice being heard at the special city council meeting Aug 2 2018, as I will not be able to attend

I would like to voice my objection to the permit varying the zoning bylaw: they wish to increase the allowable height from 15 m to 18m.

In our strong tourism based economy, Victoria has a heritage feel to our downtown core, and this ambiance does rely on the buildings that line the streets. Height restrictions are in place for a reason, and it will become a slippery slope if the city of Victoria allows in-place bylaws to be bent by developers wishing to increase our skyline to make more profit.

Access to light is also very important, not only to this lots neighbors, but to pedestrians and tourists on our streets. My unit at 409 swift st faces the lot of 1622-1628 store st, and will very much be affected by a height bylaw being overlooked. In England, they take the "right to light" very seriously, and strictly enforce new building developments not encroaching on a existing residence. Yes, we are not in England, however, our heritage core of Victoria does have strong English roots, in our now multi-cultural community. If we could hang on to any old English traditions....I wish our city would follow the "right to light" example.

If we continue to let our skyline increase, we will soon end up looking like the metropolis that is downtown Vancouver, and loose our "quaint heritage feel"

Thank you for listening. Dr. Mark Paquette

--Dr. Mark Paquette Opto-mization Neurovisual Performance <u>www.opto-mization.ca</u>