

Ryan Morhart

From: Bruce Gillespie [REDACTED]
Sent: January 15, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Ryan Morhart
Subject: Wind Cries Mary Application

Manager, Permits & Inspections

This application for extension of hours application is problematic in at least two areas.

1. It runs against the City's developing policy on late night drinking. Darcy's pub has the closing time of 2 a.m. and the intent of the developing policy is to stagger closing times. Having both establishments mirroring hours creates issues in Bastion square and our alley.
2. Furthermore, there is a patio involved in this property which is in direct line site of 5 residential units in our building. Helmcken Alley is narrow and loud and any license extension to that patio should have restrictions on operating hours that assure no outdoor service after 10 p.m.

As a restaurant owner, my feeling is this is a race to the bottom where operators who are struggling with their business plan seem to think that late-night hours will help their case. Having operated for over 6 years in an adjacent property I know that there is no silver bullet by extending operating hours. What tends to happen is you burn out your staff and drive up your labour costs, all for minimal revenue. Neither are a solution for increased success. We've done the analysis and find that the guests attracted are not of the profile that suits business vitality or our neighbourhood.

Sincerely,
Bruce Gillespie
Owner/Managing Director
Little Jumbo Restaurant Corp.

[REDACTED]

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1715 Government Street
Victoria, BC, V8W 1Z4

Attn: Manager, Permits & Inspections
Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department
1 Centennial Square Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

January 14, 2020

Re: Application to Change Hours of Food Primary Licence at 45 Bastion Square, Wind Cries Mary

Dear Manager, Permits & Inspections,

The DRA Land Use Committee has reviewed the application to amend the Food Primary Licence for the Wind Cries Mary restaurant at 45 Bastion Square, Victoria, BC V8W 1J1. The scope of change is restricted to the existing licence. The existing hours are 09:00 am to 12:00 am daily. Proposed hours are 09:00 am to 02:00 am daily. No change is proposed to the existing Occupant Load.

Feedback from the committee is as follows:

- As someone who knows how difficult a pub licence is and that this is a restaurant, I cannot in any way support this application.
- Simply put, people don't eat at that time, so this is just another attempt at a pub license through the back door. Show us sales figures for the food and beverage sales after 10:00 PM.
- Restaurants are not pubs even though they may want to be. Bastion Square has Darcy's Pub, The Irish Times and Garrick's Head, ask the police if they want another pub here.
- Concern an extended-hours Food Primary licence would become a de facto Liquor Primary;
- Acknowledges no additional seating has been requested;
- There was a question about what happens if the restaurant were subsequently sold to a pub-oriented owner;
- The request seems reasonable given the absence of adjacent residential buildings; and
- Would like to see discussion on how active the kitchen is at late night and what time the kitchen would close

Sincerely,

Mathew Yee
Land Use Committee & Member of the Board,
Downtown Residents Association