

## Madison Heiser

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**From:** BEVERLEY BOWES [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 9, 2020 8:17 AM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Temporary Use Application for 650 Speed Avenue

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

As a resident of Burnside Gorge, I am writing in favour of the application that 650 Speed Avenue to be used as temporary supportive housing while 210 Gorge Road is being redeveloped. I understand the plan is that 650 Speed Avenue will then become rental apartments. I will be watching.

Beverley Bowes  
535 Manchester Road  
Victoria

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Scott Daly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** May 11, 2020 4:16 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Cc:** Deanna Bhandar [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 650 Speed Avenue: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00016

Re: 650 Speed Avenue: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00016

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a homeowner at 606 Speed Ave, I would like to voice my strong support of Cool Aid's temporary use permit for supportive housing at 650 Speed Ave.

Approving this permit moves forward the city's agenda of building more supportive and affordable housing which I believe creates a better and safer community for everyone.

I would also like to note that having attended several meetings on this proposed development, I have found Cool Aid to be very engaging with the community and I have appreciated their open and honest communication. Having lived close to other supportive housing run by Cool Aid in the past, I have always found them to be a collaborative and constructive neighbour and I would welcome them to our neighbourhood on Speed Ave.

I hope council will approve this permit so that construction can begin as soon as possible on the much needed development at 210 Gorge.

Thank you,  
Scott Daly

[REDACTED]  
Victoria, BC

## Madison Heiser

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**From:** Lynn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:51 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Application No. 00016 650 Speed Avenue TUP

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I wish to support the issuance of a temporary use permit for 2 years for the hotel at 650 Speed Avenue. This type of permit is needed to provide supportive housing for a 2 year period. This housing would provide a transition from short-term temporary housing to a long term solution for some of Victoria's un-housed community.

I applaud the City for taking an important step forward. By the end of the 2 year period, there may be long term supportive housing projects developed throughout the Greater Victoria area, which will help to ensure a significant support for individuals and increase the range of housing stock we need.

As a long-time Victoria resident, I have been concerned about our extremely low vacancy rate and the subsequent loss of housing for anyone in our community that faces an unexpected financial crisis, who suffers a health issue, or has to flee family violence. With provincial and federal commitments we can end homelessness and we must strive for no less.

I am also a member of Greater Victoria Acting Together (GVAT) a coalition of 32 community-based service providers, faith groups, front-line agencies, employee groups and business agencies.

thanks  
Lynn Beak

Thom & Ricky Li  
630 Speed Ave  
Victoria, BC. V8Z 1A4

Council Members  
Council Chambers  
Victoria City Hall  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

To Victoria Council Members and Whom it may also concern:

RE: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00016

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter regarding my concerns to the above permit today. I fully support what the city does for less fortunate members of society; however, being a home owner in the area and a tax payer, I do have concerns what you plan on doing in my neighbourhood. There may be a person on council who lives in the same neighbourhood as I do, there may not be. If you do not live in the same neighbourhood, please consider what you are doing to my neighbourhood.

My husband and I have been a home owner at 630 Speed Ave for 9 years now. We are a young, working family of 4 – two beautiful children ages 4 and 3. We were fortunate to have found a place to call home 9 years ago and have loved the area. We are central to shopping districts with easy access to schools and community services. The common grounds of our building features a beautiful playground for small children. Our building has seen many young families come through – where we grow our families until they are older children and need more privacy. We use our neighbourhood streets to walk our dogs, take a stroll and bring our kids outside to explore nature.

That being said, the temporary use of the former Mayfair Motel to convert into rental units for supportive housing does concern me. Ideally, I would like to see council disapprove of this permit but I don't think that the public's letters of concern will sway your decision if you have already made up your mind. Firstly, do you want visitors coming to Victoria to drive down the main road of the city – Douglas Street and see the less fortunate on full display? What will our Mayfair Shopping Center look like? A homeless and drug addict hangout in the food court?

My family has been in self isolation for the last 9 weeks, except my husband who is a grocery store manager. We miss our walks to the parks and playing outside exploring nature. If this permit is approved, are we going to be isolated indoors for 2 years in fear of drug paraphernalia on the grounds and violence outbursts on our front lawn? What about the safety of our homes? Are we going to even feel safe at home? Do we have to stay up late at night to make sure our cars on the street don't get vandalized?

Again, I am not against what you are proposing for our city and to help the less fortunate, but please take it further away from our homes, from the main street of our city. The main streets of our city should boast shopping and accommodations for visitors to the city – not home to drug addicts and homelessness. I know this is temporary but 2 years to live in fear is too long. Yes, moving is an option but we are not financially capable at the moment to relocate.

If this must go on, please have security 24/7 - around the clock outside the main doors and on our streets so we can be assured that everyone is safe. That's the least you could do. Please don't help one demographic of our city and put another's in danger. As a parent, we all fear for the future of our children. I don't want my children's lives to be jeopardized or cut short because they stepped on a needle on the ground while running outside or caught in the middle of a violent outburst on our front lawn.

Please have some sympathy for those who already have been in the neighbourhood and those who don't have any foreseeable plans for relocation. We love our neighbourhood and don't want to leave for any reason. Don't make this the first reason to leave.

Sincerely,

The Li's

## Madison Heiser

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**From:** Karen Christie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020 10:58 AM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Urgent letter re 650 Speed Avenue use as longer term housing

May 13, 2020

City Council  
City of Victoria

Dear Madam/Sir:

I am writing in support of the issuance of a two-year temporary use permit for the hotel at 650 Speed Avenue to provide supportive housing for members of Victoria's homeless community.

I am very pleased that the City is proposing to take this important step forward. By the end of the two-year period, there may be long term supportive housing projects developed throughout the Greater Victoria area. This would help ensure significant support for individuals, and would increase the range of housing stock this is so badly needed.

I moved to Victoria almost four years ago from Ottawa where I worked in international development. As a former diplomat, I have lived and worked in places like Haiti and Afghanistan. Quite frankly, I find it rather overwhelming that Victoria, one of Canada's more affluent cities, has something similar to the tent cities in post-earthquake Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere. However, I am heartened to know that my City Council is working hard, together with the provincial and federal governments to find solutions for this desperate situation.

We need to garner support for anyone in our community that might be facing an unexpected financial crisis, suffers a health issue, or has to flee family violence. With provincial and federal commitments we can end homelessness. We must strive for no less.

As an active member of the Unitarian community here, I am very supportive of the work being done by Greater Victoria Acting Together (GVAT). This is a coalition of 32 community-based service providers, faith groups, front-line agencies, employee groups and business agencies. This proposed short-term housing project is very much in line with GVAT's Housing For All call to action.

I thank you for your efforts to move this very worthwhile initiative forward.

Sincerely,

Karen Christie

113C Superior Street  
Victoria, BC V8V 1T2

[REDACTED]



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

## Madison Heiser

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**From:** Yvonne Hsieh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020 9:28 AM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** letter of support for proposal to convert motel at 650 Speed Avenue into rental units of supportive housing

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Subject: letter of support for proposal to convert motel at 650 Speed Avenue into rental units of supportive housing

Dear Mayor Helps and Council Members:

I am writing to support the proposal to issue a Temporary Use Permit for a 2-year term to convert the existing 4-storey motel at 650 Speed Avenue into rental units of supportive housing. Even before the pandemic, supportive housing was already urgently needed. The current crisis has only aggravated the situation, and Council should seize every opportunity to alleviate the problem of homelessness in Victoria.

I live a stone's throw from Mount Edwards (Vancouver and Rockland). When the proposal to convert this former nursing home to supportive housing for people with mental health and addictions issues was announced a few years ago, there was considerable opposition from the neighborhood. But with good support services in place, the residents of Mount Edwards have not caused any problem in the neighborhood that I'm aware of. I believe most neighbors now would concede that their fears were unjustified. Council certainly made the right decision to approve that conversion project.

I sincerely hope that this proposal will also be approved. For privacy reasons, I would request that my email address not be included in the public records.

Respectfully,

(Dr.) Yvonne Hsieh  
Professor Emerita of French, University of Victoria  
Chair, Social & Ecological Justice Committee, Holy Cross Parish  
Member of Housing Action Research Team, GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together)

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