## **Richard Elliott**

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Brandon Williamson June 19, 2020 4:52 PM Victoria Mayor and Council 1010 Fort Street

Follow up Completed

Hello,

I live at 1008 Pandora, a short walk from 1010 Fort Street, which is to be presented at the CotW meeting on June 25. I was surprised to hear that staff are recommending rejecting this proposal in favor of a land consolidation. To me, land consolidation is precisely the opposite direction we should be taking with Fort Street. What makes this street special is its granularity - the way the architecture changes with every 10-15 steps you take. Fort Street does not need more View Towers, or "widescrapers" as I call them, consuming significant proportions of the streetscape, creating a monotonous urban fabric. If this were Pandora or Yates or View Street, by all means consolidate, but to widen the street presence of this building would be a step in the wrong direction for the redevelopment of Fort Street. This building is also a welcome break from the typical boxy form of most of the newer towers in the downtown core.

My only qualm with the building is how much of the ground floor is dedicated to a hydro box which could be better used as a storefront. Is there no other place this box could sit?

Thank you, Brandon Williamson Resident of the Downtown core

## **Richard Elliott**

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments: Ian Sutherland June 23, 2020 10:07 AM Victoria Mayor and Council Charlotte Wain 1010 Fort Street Rezoning 1010 Fort CALUC Letter 2020 06 22.pdf

Please see attached supplementary CALUC letter for 1010 Fort Street Rezoning.

Regards, Ian Sutherland Chair DRA LUC



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Mayor Helps and Council City of Victoria No.1 Centennial Square Victoria, BC, V8W 1P6

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

## Re: Abstract Developments – Rezoning for 1010 Fort Street

Dear Mayor Helps and Council,

The DRA LUC would like to offer support for the Staff recommendation to decline the revised application as community and committee members have expressed deep concerns and opposition to the proposal. As observed by Staff, the property is "not suitable for additional density in a taller building" due to its size and context.

While a land assembly would improve the development potential for this site, the building form and character as submitted would still not respond to the context of the Fort Street Heritage Corridor. As stated in the OCP (DPA 7B Corridors Heritage) the designation includes the objective of "high quality architecture, landscape and urban design responsive to its historic context through sensitive and innovative interventions". The evolution of this application highlights the deficiencies in policy to ensure sensitive integration of new development along the Fort Street Heritage Corridor. This application reminds us of the imperative to complete the update to the Downtown Core Area Plan in a timely manner and we look forward to continuing that important work with the City at the earliest opportunity.

We enthusiastically anticipate, and have always welcomed, continued residential growth in our neighbourhood, but we must also balance the importance of the creation of new units with other complementary goals of equal standing, such as; liveability, public amenities, heritage conservation, and the preservation of unique community character.

Sincerely,

Ian Sutherland Chair Land Use Committee Downtown Residents Association

cc COV Planning