Pamela Martin

From: Ben Finkelstein [redacted]
Sent: October 2, 2020 1:12 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: 1881 Fort Street - C1-4 Zone Cannabis District

Thanks for this opportunity. I am Ben Finkelstein of 1830 Davie Street. I have lived on Davie Street for well over 20 years. A few comments on this rezoning.

1. I thought Cannabis shops were not supposed to be too close to schools and kids. Davie street over the past 5 years has fortunately seen the growth of families and kids move on to the street. Last informal count has well over 20 under the age of 16 now calling this street home. Not counting the new born a few doors down. It's awesome!
2. No one wants to see Wrap and Roll go. I get it, it's business, but if the Cannabis folks wanted to win over the neighbourhood they really should have figured out something with the landlord that did not have this emerging multi-culture establishment leave. You would think that having Victoria's best middle eastern take out next to a "weed" shop would be a no-brainer. Guess not.
3. The storefront will be busy, lots of clients coming and going. This will be a problem with a narrow street, limited parking and lots of kids accessing the street, - their homes and front yards - and the likely new bike lines on Oak Bay Ave. driving more traffic onto side streets, like Davie We already have issues with delivering vans, tenant street parking, hospital staff and visitors using our street for parking. The Cannabis shop is not going to help this at all.
4. I get the complexities or city planning / zoning / transit / small business / sustainability. It's my career. I also get walkable communities, diversity and local economy. Sure I am willing to support the new Cannabis District but I need to see some serious considerations coming from them and the CIty on how this will add to my community not make it more dangerous for the residents and in particular the kids who I encourage to take over the streets whenever I can!
5. How about we close off Davie Street except to residential traffic at Fort street. That will create headaches for all the delivery vans but this too needs to be dialed back. It will though allow the Cannabis district to truly be part of a high walk score, low carbon, kid friendly neighborhood that we all talk about but are challenged to pull off. Here's your chance.

Pamela Martin

From: Kathleen Laird [redacted]
Sent: October 2, 2020 11:38 AM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: comments about Fort St Cannabis Rezoning (No.20-009)

I would like to submit some comments with regard to the above proposed changes to this space. I don't oppose the nature of what is going into this space, I just want to ensure that it stays in the one unit and not take over all three and have comments about the site in general.

My house (1923 Davie St) faces the side of this commercial building and the owner does not care about the appearance or operation of this site. I have owned this house for 15yrs and called bylaw enforcement many times.

The landscaping is appalling and always looks unkept. The garbage area is unsecured and always dirty and unlocked. Parking is frequently a problem in this high traffic area and left turns on to Fort a driving hazard. If this cannabis store moves in, I am concerned about an increase in parking issues, deliveries, garbage accumulation as well as the continued landscaping issues.

Davie Street closer to Fort St does not emit the same neighborly feeling as the rest of the street. In such high traffic, visible areas I would like to see more respect from both the building owner and the renters the impact they have on our neighborhood.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts on this and I hope you will keep them in mind during the process.

Kathleen Laird
[redacted]