

June 8, 2018

Mayor and Council  
City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square

Re: 496/498 Cecelia Road Rezoning/Development Permit Application

Dear Mayor and Council,

I'm writing on behalf of the Burnside Gorge Community Association (BGCA) Board of Directors to express our support for the proposal being put forward by Pacifica Housing for 496/498 Cecelia Road.

Pacifica's proposal to repurpose the field behind the former Burnside Elementary School to create affordable housing, daycare, and spaces for community use, fits in well with the vision for the site laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan for Burnside Gorge. This project, along with a reactivated Burnside School, will form an integral part of the Urban Village envisioned in the plan. The BGCA has long advocated for much needed affordable housing for families, seniors and youth, and the creation of new licensed infant/toddler, preschool and school-aged childcare spaces is a great benefit to the community.

BGCA is partnering on the project as the operator of the proposed childcare spaces. We have had the opportunity to participate in the design of the space so far in order to ensure that it will suit our needs as operators, and also the needs of the community. We are satisfied with the design progression of the childcare spaces to-date, recognizing that the final design and finishes may be dependent on feedback and input from the licensing department of Island Health and other regulatory bodies.

We are currently exploring a joint-use agreement for a shared community space adjacent to the child care facilities, in partnership with Pacifica and School District 61. This space is intended to be used by students of the Burnside Education Centre for school activities during the day and then available for community use in the evenings.

Pacifica's development team has been very responsive to community concerns. They presented at a CALUC Community Meeting in February of this year. They took the feedback from residents and returned with revised plans they shared at an Open House in May to gather further community feedback on the proposed "village green" included in the project.

We appreciate the opportunity to show our support for this development that will revitalize and bring new energy to the community. It is our hope that Mayor and Council share this vision.

Sincerely,



Avery Stetski  
President

July 19, 2020

Mayor & Council  
#1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC

Dear Mayor and Council:

**BGLUC comment on the proposal at 496-498 Cecilia Road – Burnside School Site**

The Burnside Gorge Land Use Committee (BGLUC) fully supports the proposal by Pacifica Housing and Greater Victoria School District for redevelopment of the Burnside School Property.

Focusing on the latest landscaping plans the BGLUC appreciates the extensive, well planned, mixed use concept. That said the BGLUC would like to comment on the following:

- We would encourage an increase in the number of seating groups throughout the site for social gatherings.
  - Replacement of concrete paving with brick paves where possible. Minimally at locations to designate pedestrian routes.
  - Question on whether the 6.0m fire truck access could be relocated to the parallel driveway on the adjacent school parking lot. The access to any building for firefighters would not be compromised as the adjacent parking lot extends to a greater length than the proposed access.
- We question the long term viability of the "reinforced grass" area

The Burnside Gorge LUC is endorsing this proposal as fitting in with the BG LAP plans as a future Village centre and anticipate it will encourage community friendly development along Jutland Road.

Respectfully,



Avery Stetski  
Land Use Committee Chair  
Burnside Gorge Community Association

cc: Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department  
Lauren Antifeau TL housing Solutions, Pacifica Housing