

July 7, 2021

Mayor Helps and Council City of Victoria

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Proposed Neighbourhood Boundary Adjustments

I write on behalf of the Burnside Gorge Community Association (BGCA) Board of Directors to express our concern about the proposed boundary adjustments for Burnside Gorge. Many residents of Burnside Gorge have expressed to our Board that they do not understand the rationale for these changes, nor understand why they are happening when there are more important issues for the City to address in Burnside Gorge.

The current proposal to amend the neighbourhood boundaries has created widespread confusion and frustration within the Burnside Gorge community. There is a lack of understanding of the implications for neighbourhood including the CALUC process and land use planning, community funding, community building and events, community identity and may create issues for board strategic plans and governance. No evidence has been provided to us or the neighbourhood about the rationale for this change or the desire of the residents and business owners in the area to be taken out of Burnside Gorge. Finally, a new initiative to form a Burnside Gorge BIA is dependent on the involvement of the businesses both north and south of Bay Street.

By this letter, the Burnside Gorge Community Association Board of Directors wishes to formally inform the City and Council of its opposition to changes to our neighbourhood boundaries.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cull President, Board of Directors