



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA



Grace Lore, MLA
Victoria-Beacon Hill

February 23, 2022,

City of Victoria Mayor and Council
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Victoria's Missing Middle Housing Initiative (MMHI).

As a Member of the Legislative Assembly, a resident, and a parent in the city, I support the City's efforts to increase the supply of townhouses, houseplexes, and other forms of the 'missing middle' housing.

Victoria continues to have a low birth rate - in fact it is the lowest in the country – and too many young families or those who are hoping to start a family feel like they cannot stay in our community. We need these families, and they need the walkable and bikeable and connected communities that make Victoria such an incredible place to live and raise a family.

As seniors in our community age and consider downsizing, they need different kinds of housing that allow them to stay in and connected to the communities that they have helped build.

This strategy is consistent with several key provincial government priorities and there are important opportunities to combine the MMHI with the provincial HousingHub's Affordable Homeownership Program (AHOP). Combining the MMHI with the AHOP could enable the city to increase the number of below-market units created, which would help further BC Housing and the province's goal of increasing housing affordability.

In short - more dense and more diverse housing in our community is climate action, community building, and improves affordability.

There is no question we need more three-bedroom units and more family-friendly, 'missing middle', and ground-oriented alternatives to single-family dwellings. I support an approach that addresses the expensive and time-consuming rezoning processes for this much needed housing, encourages density and below-market units, and requires a minimum number of family sized units.

Thank you for considering my letter of support.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grace Lore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Grace Lore, MLA
Victoria-Beacon Hill