

[REDACTED]

From: Gail Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: June 2, 2022 9:45 AM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Temporary use permit

Categories: [REDACTED]

Application No. 00021

With respect, I submit this email in support of this application.

Gail Brown,
102-1044 Balmoral Road, Victoria, BC V8T 1A8

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 12:58 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Re: Temporay Use Permit Application No. 00021

To whom it may concern:

Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00021

Regarding the Solid group located on North Park Street, across from Cubbon Apartments and the issues we have had to deal with since they moved in.

S. 22 Every morning there are needles, human feces, drug-using tools, and people lying around our property, refusing to move away when asked politely to do so.

Since they started their operation on North Park Street, our building is constantly being vandalized and has break-ins almost weekly. Their clients are leaving the Solid operation walking onto our property, shooting up drugs, smoking drugs, leaving their garbage all over our lawns, threatening our staff, swearing and being abusive when asked to leave.

The clients of Solid, are drinking alcohol openly, starting as early as 7:30 am when I am doing my morning rounds and are hanging around waiting for Solid to open. They throw bottles all over our property and urinate openly in our main entrance where our senior citizens are being subject to this behaviour. I frequently observe people leaving the Solid building, jumping into their cars and immediately starting to smoke the drugs that they just received. They then drive away, which I find dangerous to the road users, also the odour of the dugs is entering our building constantly.

In closing, I will inform you that I have encountered dangerous situations with the clients of Solid when they are out of control and being verbally abusive to me **S. 22**

Thank you for your time.
S. 22

Cubbon Apartments

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 12:58 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Re: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00021

To whom it may concern:

Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00021

My name is S. 22 of the Cubbon Apartments on the corner of Cook and North Park Streets. This building is a 55+ Building and it use to be a wonderful place to live until Solid opened its doors and attracted the riff-raff that is now taking over our streets.

S. 22 and have not been able to do so since Solid. I am hoping that they will not have their temporary bylaw extended as they need to be asked to go elsewhere. I believe that the best area would be close to the other facilities that cater to the homeless and drug addicts of the city, on Pandora.

I understand that the City purchased the building beside McDonald's and believe that this would be a great place to put the Solid team, there was a building on it and it just needs to uplift a bit to cater to their needs.

S. 22 can once again walk their dogs without fear of one of these people kicking the dog or verbally abusing them. S. 22 3-5 tenants that have been accosted by them and that is ridiculous, these are seniors and should be able to live without worry of being attacked. I myself am constantly sworn at, called various unsavoury names and fear that one day one of these idiots will pull a knife on me or something else.

S. 22 7 years ago, North Park was a beautiful area to live in, with parks, stores, neighbourhood pubs, families, schools, etc. But it has all been ruined by Solid and these so-called homeless people.

Please do something to show North Park that you care about the neighbourhood and their well-being. Thank you for listening and sorry for the rant.

I have sent around 12 emails so far and hope this is the one that will hit home.

Sincerely,

S. 22

Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Yvonne Parti [REDACTED]
Sent: June 2, 2022 8:53 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Temp Use Permit 00021 for 1802 Cook St.

I live on North Park St. almost directly opposite the N. Park entrance to 1802 Cook St.

In principle, I have no objection to the proposal to distribute cannabis as part of the existing harm reduction services.

Yvonne Parti

1035 North Park St.

[REDACTED]

From: Gary Kuchar [REDACTED]
Sent: June 2, 2022 5:26 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: 1802 Cook St

Dear Council,

I hope this note finds you well. I am writing in regard to the proposal at 1802 Cook St.

It's clear that the mayor and council are determined to make life increasingly miserable for the tax payers of North Park, especially those of us in the 1000 block.

The area is now overrun with addicts and the mentally ill. Stepping outside our doors is becoming an increasingly depressing and even dangerous thing to do. We are bearing an unfair share of the city's addiction and homelessness problem.

As a result, the complex at 1019 North Park has spent thousands of dollars fixing and replacing locks and fences in our garbage and recycling area. The new proposal will only increase the vandalism and trespassing problems we deal with on a routine basis.

If the city is going to continue imposing policies that cost us this kind of money and quality of life then it's only fair that we get some kind of tax relief. Otherwise litigation may be our only recourse the next time we spend thousands of dollars to replace our security apparatus.

Also the intersection at Cook and North Park St has become increasingly difficult to navigate with the growing density of traffic and unpredictable behavior of pedestrians. It's only a matter of time before someone gets seriously injured or killed at that intersection due to lack of visibility and traffic density.

Let me repeat that: It's only a matter of time before someone gets injured or killed at the intersection of Cook and North Park due to the increased traffic flow arising from the closing of Vancouver St for bike lanes and unpredictable behavior of pedestrians.

Similarly it's only a matter of time before a resident of this area is randomly attacked by one of the many unstable people now in this area thanks to the city's decision to make us the home of addiction and social decay.

I had hoped to make a home in North Park but I see now that was a big mistake.

In short, I am opposed to the proposed development but I have little to no hope that my opinion matters (which should tell you something about these "consultations").

Sincerely,

Gary Kuchar
Professor
Department of English
University of Victoria
Clearihue Building C329
PO BOX 1700 STN CSC
Victoria BC

[REDACTED]
V8W 2Y2
[REDACTED]

George Herbert and the Mystery of the Word: Poetry and Scripture in Seventeenth-Century England (Palgrave: 2017).

From : Louise [REDACTED]

Sat, Jun 04, 2022 03:01 PM

Subject : city hall memo

To : [REDACTED]

To City Council:

I provide ongoing assistance to my sister, Sheila Williams, who resides at #351, 1035 North Park.

Parking on the street is very limited, which is a problem as my sister has mobility issues.

There are always people loitering - on the lawn, by the building entrance, and on the street. Abusive language, aggressive encounters, and heckling is commonplace.

Although I support the concept of a 'safe site', it is clear that it needs to be located in a less-populated location. I DO NOT support this proposed 'temporary use permit' of 1802 Cook Street - it infringes too much on the other people and businesses of this street. I am concerned for my own safety and that of my sister on a regular basis.

Carol Chapman

Carol Chapman

June 6/22.

[REDACTED]

From: Gabriel Gaultier [REDACTED]
Sent: June 7, 2022 9:32 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Temporary Use Permit 1802 Cook Street

SOLID Outreach, a not-for-profit organization has negatively impacted North Park Village and the adjacent neighbourhoods. My daughter attends daycare a block from SOLID and I walk her to and from daycare every single day. I encourage and invite any councillor deciding on this temporary permit to walk with us on our daily route to truly discover what SOLID is doing to this neighbourhood. I can write many pages on my many encounters with open drug use, drug dealing, and dangerous behaviour outside of SOLID but I don't need to. Simply drive by – people are passed out on the sidewalks and are engaging in dangerous behaviour all around the premises. It's no longer intermittent behaviour, it is rare if these activities are not happening. I can personally attest to an individual that I caught breaking into cars that was spotted loitering around SOLID, however, the police likely have better statistics on the crime rates.

I imagine most of the letters of opposition will revolve around building a vibrant community and revitalizing a corridor and how SOLID is counter to all of these movements. I agree.

In addition to all these arguments, I have yet to see any evidence or statistics from SOLID on any of the good that they are providing. Have they lowered the number of deaths due to overdose in the city? I haven't seen any evidence. Is the good in North Park offset by all the bad that has been imported?

When politicians come to my house and ask me for my support in the upcoming election, they often like to ask me about the problems that I want to be solved. My response is always: crime, drug use, and healthcare for the mentally ill walking the streets. Politicians, such as yourselves, respond by saying "most of these are provincial problems". I agree that we have issues that the province and the city must come together and solve. Approving SOLID to continue to operate is providing a band-aid approach to a provincial problem. Leave drug distribution and addictions therapy to the professionals, and the healthcare system. Ensure the therapy is given by qualified individuals in a professional setting. Deal with the mentally ill in other ways than throwing them to the streets and allowing them to self medicate. It is naïve to think that SOLID is the answer to any of these issues.

Needless to say, I strongly oppose this application for a temporary use permit at 1802 Cook Street.

Gabriel Gaultier

1141 Caledonia Ave

[REDACTED]

From: Karlie Windatt [REDACTED]
Sent: June 7, 2022 6:28 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00021

Dear City and Council,

We are writing to you in regards to the temporary use permit application at 1802 Cook st and the distribution of cannabis.

We are strongly opposed to this permit and the continued operation of this business for a number of reasons. As homeowners within 100m of this location we have felt numerous negative effects of this operation and allowing them to distribute cannabis would only amplify them.

The sidewalks and public spaces surrounding this location are constantly covered in garbage drug paraphernalia (needles, weed edible wrappers, cigarette butts, etc) and vomit. There are always a number of people congregated outside this location (after having used their services) visibly intoxicated or passed out in the bushes nearby. All of this happening within a 100m of two daycares! Children should not have to bear witness to this type of behaviour. Due to the constant state of this block we cannot walk our dog along that side of cook st.

A revitalized North Park Village will continue to be a dream for those of us living nearby if a business like this is allowed to continue to operate as well as distribute cannabis. I sincerely hope that the city and council takes a really good look at how this is negatively impacting the village vibrancy, residents, businesses, schools, and daycares within the area.

Sincerely,
Karlie and Cody McEvay
1109 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria

[REDACTED]

From: Lauren [REDACTED]
Sent: June 7, 2022 9:14 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Temporary Use Permit 1802 Cook St

Attention City and Council:

I am writing to oppose the temporary use permit renewal/application for 1802 Cook St.

Based on the city's own language in their engagement summaries, a large urban village, such as North Park Village, "envision a people focused village evolution with diverse shops, housing and greenery". "Urban villages provide a heart to the community – a place for walkable shops and services, socializing and placemaking, and diverse living options". If this is the city's intended hope for North Park Village, then the proponents of 1802 Cook St, including SOLID, Safer, and Substance, do not serve that vision.

In addition to being misaligned with the City of Victoria's vision, there is also misalignment with the North Park Neighbourhood Association's hopes for a vibrant social and economic village with businesses that serve the local community. The three businesses running out of 1802 Cook St are all serving a limited population of people that are choosing this location as a destination to obtain free or cheap cannabis and supplies that support illicit drug use, rather than serving the immediate community members who live and work in the area.

Lastly, on a personal note as a parent of a young child that attends a nearby daycare, there has been a significant increase in loitering, illicit, and illegal behaviour outside of 1802 Cook St since the initial temporary use permit was granted. Moreso since the building was purchased by SOLID and the TUP was extended to the storefronts on Cook St. We have witnessed many people passed out on the sidewalk, a significant increase in used and clean supply needles, abusive language, bike chopping, and wielding of perceived weapons (knives, sharp sticks) on our daily daycare commute. I try to embrace the diverse neighbourhood we live in, but frankly, it is a ruse only to myself - a front to protect my child; let it be known that I do not feel safe. I have felt an increased sense of fear since this TUP was granted and extended to the whole building.

I am aware of the current overdose crisis that is impacting our city and unfortunately, if the proponent has concrete, research-based evidence to prove that by offering their "harm reduction services" of supplying cheap cannabis is directly linked to the minimization of these overdoses – they have not provided this information in any way shape or form to the surrounding community.

Many thanks for taking the time to review these concerns in consideration of this application.

Sincerely,
Lauren Gaultier
1141 Caledonia Ave.

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Lauren

[REDACTED]

From: Marianne Ketchen [REDACTED]
Sent: June 8, 2022 5:57 AM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00021

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Mayor and Council,

We are writing in regards to the above noted application pertaining to the site 1802 Cook Street, Solid Outreach Society and the continued distribution of cannabis.

Unfortunately at this time, we are away from our home due to an extended family emergency. Otherwise, we would prefer to speak to council in person during the offered time period.

We are vehemently opposed to this application and the continued operation of this business.

Why?

As residents in very close proximity to this site, not only has our interest in our property been greatly affected by this operation, but so has the safety and security of our home and neighbourhood and our every day livelihoods.

This affect, over the past 18 months they have been in operation, has demonstrated a continued negative increase in its affect on all matters, both real and personal in our lives.

The sidewalks and public places within the general vicinity of this building have plunged deeply into daily scenes of persons splayed on sidewalks and boulevards, drug paraphernalia (needles) scattered in your path, garbage, vomit, strewn clothing and goods. This activity also takes place right outside our home where we have witnessed people injecting and persons passed out in the vacant lot adjacent to our home. Persons engaged in drug use that are also in possession of knives. All this and more taking place in what was hoped to become a revitalized, vibrant and safe neighbourhood and village.

The assimilation of this type of business and current need into mainstream neighbourhoods is far from being tried and true. Without sufficient evidence based research and trials to effectively and successfully integrate this type of operation into public space, Councils approval of their application for extending the Temporary Use Permit would be a grave mistake inflicting continued and more harm on the businesses and residents of this neighbourhood.

There are approximately 13 residential housing units on our street, that being the 1100 block of Caledonia Avenue. Within these varied housing units reside approximately 14 children the majority well under the age of 10. This does not include visiting grandkids, family and friends. Add to this a vibrant Ukrainian Catholic Church that offers community rentals as well as a successful after school kids program. Police call out records to the Church's property will illustrate the type of activity that happens on this property 24/7, 365. It will certainly capture the increase in call outs since Solid first arrived on Cook Street. The children growing up on this street will never have a safe passage through North Park Village to get to the bakery, the ice cream store or the food trucks for chips. Even escorted, it is no parent or guardians desire to expose the children to the unsafe lifestyle that currently exists in the 1800 block of Cook Street.

To permit this type of business that has clearly demonstrated the carnage that comes with its daily operations to continue in a mix of elementary and high schools, multiple daycares, churches, across the street from a liquor store and multiple long standing businesses is simply, wrong.

If there was one resounding comment we heard during the OCP process this past year, it was that Victoria was quickly becoming an unsafe city. Her streets and parks no longer offer the peace and tranquillity they once did. Now you must sweep the grounds for drug paraphernalia, garbage and feces prior to enjoying the public space with your family and pets.

It is our hope that Council weigh the true negative impact this operation has had on our neighbourhood and community and the extent of the continued mounting negative affect on the majority stakeholders involved in their decision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Marianne Ketchen
1111 Caledonia Avenue
Victoria

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

[REDACTED]

From: Quill Scribbles [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 1:45 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Notice of opportunity for Public Comment

In regards to the message I received in the mail about Temporary Use of Permit Application No. 00021 at 1802 Cook St; I want to express my support of Harm Reduction in our community.

Cannabis is a well-researched substance known to have health benefits, and if it is being used to assist vulnerable individuals in our neighbourhood struggling with addictions, as our city is still deep in the throes of a fentanyl crisis; then all the better.

I hope this is not deterred by more uptight and judgemental people with a NIMBY mindset; that level of classism, snobbery, and ostracization are only accelerators to the crisis at hand; for which access to plant medicine as form of Harm Reduction is a minor step in the healing process.

[REDACTED]

From: Trish Oliver [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 1:12 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Substance Program North Park

Dear Committee,

Please relocate the program and provide additional supports for these people. Recognize that that area is family oriented or was until this unregulated poorly supervised program started and is dangerous to non users. Both emotionally and physically.

Was there any research feasibility study done..consultation prior to locating this high-needs program in a family zone? Children vulnerable adults do not need to witness this behaviour on a daily, hourly basis.

I moved into Cubbon October 2021..what I thought would be a safe affordable home.
Entering exiting Cubbon on North Park is a challenge, disheartening and dangerous.

On a weekly almost daily basis there is violence, clients of the program hang in the vicinity and carry on with their drug usage..it is frankly disturbing and grows more so the longer it is there. Not to mention the tacit approval these high needs folk get by such unregulated tolerance of the behaviour occurring around the program and its location.

The clients sleep, use and congregate in the area regularly ..nightly and daily.

Homelessness, drug usage, and crime, in and around Cubbon has grown and continues to grow. Located as it is to Pandora all kinds of hard-core users and their enablers frequent the area..and frankly there must be a better way.

I am no stranger to Homelessness and the habits of street\drug involved people. I worked for the City of Toronto with many partners who provided services for this population ..What I am surprised with is that this program seems to have little to know regard for the families, vulnerable adults and others who live in this area!

Please re-locate this program and when you do, please provide security and consult with the neighbourhood..incidences should be documented of which from my perspectives are far too many. Avoidance of the impacts to those who live and work in the area need to be of concern too!

A vibrant once safe area is slowly being eroded and the safety and security of the majority of residents is being threatened or disregarded by those in charge-- the Program itself and City Hall Victoria

Sincerely,

Trish Oliver
348-1035 North Park Street