

[REDACTED]

From: Carlie Maglio [REDACTED]
Sent: November 16, 2023 9:24 AM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: 1039/1043 meares st

Hi there, I have a question for tonight's city council meeting regarding proposed changes to 1039, and 1043 Meares St.

As a resident on this block for a few years now, we are faced with the challenge of very limited parking. My building has no lot, and as this area has had many new dwellings and construction over the last few years I am finding it very hard to park within even a block radius of my home. Sometimes I rely on the robins lot at this address, and as the number of stalls will be decreased by half, is there an alternative for residents on this street to securing parking space? It is currently hourly parking, could the city consider residential street parking like nearby streets to help this? I know time exempt permits exist however the engineering department of Vic has push backed handing these out.

Thanks so much

[REDACTED]

From: Teri Hustins [REDACTED]
Sent: November 17, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Proposed Housing Project for 1039-1043 Meares Street

Dear Mayor and Council,

This letter is respectfully submitted in support of the housing project proposed for 1039-1043 Meares Street.

This council is well aware of our community's desperate need for housing opportunities at all levels of the housing continuum. As an owner of four downtown retail businesses, I can speak for our small business community – we are desperate for more residents in and around the downtown core to allow businesses like mine to remain viable. This is even more important now that the office population seems unlikely to ever return to pre-pandemic levels.

In addition to the positive benefits of bringing more homes to the neighbourhood of downtown Victoria, this development is also perfectly situated between the City's AAA bike infrastructure investment on Vancouver and Fort Streets and supports bike friendly culture by devoting the majority of the ground floor space to an oversized bike room. Because the site is currently a surface parking lot, this proposal could bring a net of 50 new homes to the community and no previous homeowners or renters will be displaced in the process.

I also approved of the example set by this development of building and selling market priced homes directly beside a supportive housing project. I feel this sets a good example of inclusiveness and integration in our community.

While the homes will be targeted to first time home owners, the design proposes a mix of units including studios, one, two and three bedrooms which I feel will encourage a diverse mix of residents. The project conforms to the OCP and the Local Area Plan and will be built to Energy Step Code 3.

Finally, I really like the idea of integrating the work of Elza Mayhew into the architecture of the building, in reference to Victoria's strong modernist design heritage and the heritage John de Castri Mosaic building across from this site. Our city's female artists like Elza Mayhew should be regarded as an important part of our history as much as their male counterparts.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Teri Hustins

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Karia Rosenberg and I am a resident of 1033 Cook St, nearby to the proposed development on Meares St.

I am in favour of this application being approval for several reasons.

First, as an owner in a newer development, I appreciate and understand the need for more multi-family housing the be constructed in the Fairfield area.

Second, I feel strongly that this proposal is well suited, and designed, to take advantage of the new bike infrastructure that the City of Victoria has spent years building out.

Lastly, I believe the exterior facade and design elements of the building are of a high standard, and will improve the surrounding context.

I urge Council to continue fulfilling their commitment of providing diverse housing types, and approve this application.

Thank you.

Karia

From: Lynn Feasey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 10:04 AM
To: Manasvini Thiagarajan <mthiagarajan@victoria.ca>
Cc: Dave Thompson (Councillor) <dave.thompson@victoria.ca>
Subject: 1039 MEARES ST | 1043 MEARES ST

RE: 1039 MEARES ST | 1043 MEARES

Good afternoon,

Could you tell me the status of the above proposed project? I've heard it has now been approved but can't really tell where it's at from the development tracker. I've subscribed to this and hope not to miss any further public inquiry. I've never received an update.

If I may comment, I'd like to see council/ and or the developer improve efforts to notify neighbours of critical input milestones as a resident owner in the mosaic, we only received one letter last year and nothing further.

Myself (and others in the building) have concerns. Mine surround the value of this proposed development, and the timing. This neighbourhood has been under construction siege since 2016 and it's affecting our wellbeing.

Question being, do we ever get a break? ***Where is the line drawn between quality of life and development?*** If this is not currently a criteria for development permitting, then I'd ask it to be considered and will be advocating for this. Does the city of Victoria intend to issue a permit to every parking lot and vacant space in the city?

I see no value to our neighbourhood of having this, or any other building in this neighbourhood. I would support a green space where residents could connect, make friends, find community, connect with nature and get some fresh air. I think this would certainly compliment the efforts being made to help the new residents of the housing development integrate successfully. Launching yet another construction project as residents are settling into their new life could be detrimental. I cannot

overstate the role our nervous system plays in mental health... but I digress.

I would very much appreciate and update, and any thoughts you have on my concerns.

I have ccd Councillor Dave Thompson on this correspondence.

Thank you for reading!

Kind regards,
Lynn

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