



**Victoria Disability
Resource Centre**
Promoting a new perspective on disability

ATTACHMENT D

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September 9, 2024

Attn.: Ms. Charlotte Wain
Senior Planner

RE: Letter of Support for 837 Broughton Street

Dear Ms. Wain,

My name is Wendy Cox, and speaking on behalf of the Victoria Disability Resource Centre, I would like to extend my full support for the proposed rental development project located at 837 Broughton Street by Fort Properties. The 43-unit project addresses the lack of rental housing supply in Downtown Victoria and would be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood.

Despite lacking an on-site accessible parking stall, the project is well situated for individuals with accessibility barriers as the area is very well serviced by both amenities and transit routes. As all BC Transit buses and most downtown BC Transit stops are accessible, transit is a meaningful way for individuals to access the building. In contrast, alternative transportation options, such as car-share companies, do not offer much in the way of accessible options.

Adding a loading zone to the street for future residents and non-residents of 837 Broughton Street to utilize will be useful for multiple reasons, but notably for HandyDART vehicle pick-up and drop-offs, resulting in greater independence, improved mobility and access to essential services. Further to this, with the inclusion of mobility scooter parking in the bike room, I feel the project well supports those with accessibility challenges.

We also support the addition of an accessible parking stall in front of the project if possible as there is a dearth of City provided on-street accessible parking in this area. The provision of a publicly available, on-street accessible parking stall on this street would greatly improve accessibility in the neighbourhood, filling a gap in the constrained supply of existing accessible stalls within walking distance of the project.

I believe the project located at 837 Broughton Street will have a positive impact on those who face accessibility challenges, and I am confident in the project's ability to bring meaningful change to the community. I strongly encourage you to support and approve this project so that it can help achieve community housing and accessibility objectives set out by the City of Victoria and province. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like more information.

Sincerely,

Wendy Cox
Executive Director
director@drcvictoria.com