

Pamela Martin

From: Brian Henry [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 8:04 AM
To: Victoria Mayor and Council
Cc: Jason Johnson; Jonathan Tinney; MIN@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; mintc@tc.gc.ca; Murray.Rankin.C1@parl.gc.ca; Bonita.Wallace@gov.bc.ca; Gary.Holman.MLA@leg.bc.ca; s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca; Sue.farlinger@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Carole.James.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Linda Thomson; Rick Linden VYPC; Jennifer Sutton; Tim Houlihan
Subject: Ocean River opposes Victoria International Marina

Dear Mayor Helps and Council,

Since the first proposal came to put in a Victoria International Marina, that is otherwise known as Mega Yacht Marina off of Songhees, we at Ocean River Sports have opposed it and continue to oppose it.

We are still adamant that this is not good for the harbour, our community nor our environment.

I see that the paddling and rowing community continue to express loud and strong opposition to the recent re-application of the Marina.

The issue of funnelling human powered craft into a small channel inside of the marina or outside into potential rough and more dangerous conditions is a safety issue and will likely cause more problems with harbour traffic control.

I implore you and council to look at the overall good and quality of life in Victoria and vote with your hearts.

Truly,

Brian Henry
"Get out there" with Ocean River Sports and Ocean River Adventures
Phone 250 381 4233 or toll free 1800 9094233

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| Planning & Land Use Standing Committee |
| JAN 28 2016 |
| Late Item# <u>9</u> |
| Page# <u> </u> |

Pamela Martin

From: Richard Linden [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:32 PM
To: Victoria Mayor and Council
Cc: Jason Johnson; Jonathan Tinney; MIN@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; mintc@tc.gc.ca; Murray.Rankin.C1@parl.gc.ca; Bonita.Wallace@gov.bc.ca; Gary.Holman.MLA@leg.bc.ca; s.chandraherbert.mla@leg.bc.ca; Sue.farlinger@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Carole.James.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Linda Thomson; Erik Ages@Fairway Gorge Paddling Club; jls50@shaw.ca; shawnhamilton@telus.net; Tim Houlihan
Subject: Proposed yacht marina Victoria Harbour

Mayor Helps and Councillors

I am the Commodore at the Victoria Youth Paddling Club(VYPC), and an active paddler and a resident of Victoria for over 35 years. I have operated a marine geophysical survey business for 30 years, and I am a consultant in marine navigation. I am very concerned by the proposed Mega-yacht Marina development at Songhees waterfront.

You are probably now aware that significant numbers of paddlers transit the proposed site every week and the numbers are growing every year. This represents a very significant commercial value to Victoria in memberships, fees and increases the attractiveness of our city for tourists (the Victoria Dragonboat Festival for example, and VYPC is planning for "Outrigger Sprint Nationals 2016" right now).

Our own club carries out coached practices with kids (10 to 18 years old) on the harbour and operates out of the docks behind Ocean River Sports. The club participates in many paddling races that invariably transit that site. The club will send boats outside our harbour for practice to experience more challenging conditions. This necessitates that we transit the marina site. The proposed human powered transit corridor is untenable in a race and during every day paddle workouts. It is especially dangerous with novice and younger inexperienced paddlers operating in an unnaturally restricted corridor, under a variety of conditions of wind , tide and traffic!

In addition I feel that given the existing harbour activity (large and small ferries, whale watchers, private marine traffic, industry, barges, government ships, and the active airport in our harbour) we have reached the limit for safety and workability of the situation. To add more, sometimes inexperienced, private power boaters crossing the airport runways to get to the marina, will only lead to an accident should this proceed as designed. I am sure Victoria International Airport would not allow commercial or private traffic to regularly transit their runways! To increase traffic by building a marina on the north side of the harbour, should be very concerning to existing runway users, harbour authorities and the city.

The plans to site a marina in the harbour at that location was possibly made at a time when the use of the harbour was at a much lower level, however, to continue to consider it now would be to ignore the obvious inadequacy of the design, and possibly risking life and a significant accident in the near future.

While some of these issues may not fall directly under the responsibility of the City of Victoria I think someone needs to take responsibility for a situation that has gone too far and is in need of rational rethinking. I think that the site, as planned, is poorly designed without due consideration to the existing users of the waterway, and is potentially an accident waiting to happen. I am hoping the City of Victoria can show some leadership and ask that this project be rejected.

Your Truly

Richard H Linden PGeo.

And ...Commodore

Victoria Youth Paddling Club.

Pamela Martin

From: Bob Baynham [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 5:38 PM
To: Victoria Mayor and Council
Cc: Jason Johnson; Jonathan Tinney
Subject: Victoria's "mega" Marina

January 26, 2016

Dear Madam Mayor and Council,

It was several years ago when we learned about the plans to build a “mega” marina in the Inner Harbour in Victoria. We found it an extraordinarily ill considered idea at the time, a conclusion we continue to hold. When we learned as well about the approval process and who had what authority we felt concern and disappointment. With so many jurisdictions having a say in some aspect of the decision and with the ultimate authority in giving approval being remote from the actual community that has to live with it was particularly worrying.

On this coming weekend a group of kayakers – friends and colleagues from our local kayaking community – will be paddling the area where the marina is to be built in order to draw attention to the issue and to express their opposition. In addition, they will draw attention to the worrying safety issue of having so much additional congestion that will, no doubt, put kayakers at risk. For instance, we have watched on numerous occasions, paddlers some of whom are visitors to Victoria and inexperienced, pass through an area where there are already multiple ferries, sea planes and existing pleasure craft. Almost inevitably, we see these paddlers put themselves into potential conflict with someone. This will certainly be greatly exacerbated should the proposed marina go ahead. This, of course, is only one dimension of concern. Aesthetic issues and the negative impact of having large yachts and the marina’s buildings and structures imposing on Victoria’s lovely inner harbor are also of concern.

We urge you to do what you can to oppose the approval of this development so that it will not be built.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Bob and Janice Baynham

Victoria, BC

