

Pamela Martin

From: Chris Rothery [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: 515 and 533 chatham street - development permit with variance #00034

Hello

This email is to express my support for the development permit and variances for 515 and 533 Chatham street, which are being discussed today in council. I feel the proposed development represents a "highest and best use" for that location....far better than the gravel parking lot that exists now. As a business owner and former resident of Chinatown I feel that bringing more residences, mixed with retail/commercial will be a boon to the neighborhood.

Best regards

Chris Rothery

Chester Fields Inc.
22-532 Herald st.
Victoria BC
V8W 1S6

[REDACTED]

Lacey Maxwell

From: Doug Boyd [REDACTED]
Sent: November 23, 2017 11:40 AM
To: Lisa Helps (Mayor); Marianne Alto (Councillor); Chris Coleman (Councillor); Ben Isitt (Councillor); Jeremy Loveday (Councillor); Margaret Lucas (Councillor); Pam Madoff (Councillor); Charlayne Thornton-Joe (Councillor); Geoff Young (Councillor)
Subject: 515 & 533 Chatham St Development Permit Application

To Mayor and Council

I have reviewed the Advisory Design Panel Report dated July 12. In my view, it is an excellent document and development permit approval should not be given without commitment by the applicant to implementing its recommendations.

Along with many residents who live in Old Town, I am concerned with the scale, massing and height of the proposal. There seems to be no sensitivity to the character of Old Town; in my view the proposed development appears very industrial in nature with square box buildings, metal cladding and blank featureless walls. I would certainly not chose to live in such a building. As an example, the development at 601 Herald should be considered as a building that is more sensitive to the context of Old Town.

This may not be within the scope of the development permit process, however, in my view there are too many residential parking spaces. We are trying to do all we can to discourage the use of personal automobiles, for those who live downtown. Providing this much resident parking flies in the face of this objective. Arguably, most downtown residents do not require a personal car. The city has great walkability, transit is relatively good downtown, bike lanes are being built, and more.

I am happy to see a parking lot replaced with residential units, especially rental units. However, we should not have to sacrifice the character of Old Town to meet this need.

I respectfully request that Mayor and Council decline this application as currently proposed.

Doug Boyd
648 Herald Street

Lacey Maxwell

From: Robert Florida [REDACTED]
Sent: November 23, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Lisa Helps (Mayor); Marianne Alto (Councillor); Chris Coleman (Councillor); Ben Isitt (Councillor); Jeremy Loveday (Councillor); Margaret Lucas (Councillor); Pam Madoff (Councillor); Charlayne Thornton-Joe (Councillor); Geoff Young (Councillor)
Cc: 'Ian Sutherland'; 'Wendy Bowkett'; 'Nicholas Harrington'
Subject: Subject: 515 & 533 Chatham St Development Permit Application

Dear Mayor and Council:

I have studied the plans and renderings of the proposed development at 515 and 533 Chatham St and am very concerned that design is so weak and so incompatible with the character of Old Town. The façade is boring, lacks Old Town detailing, and has a dubious choice of finishes. I would be very surprized if it meets the Old Town Guidelines.

While it is a good thing, I believe, to build more residences in the city core, it is not a good thing to build ugly buildings. New residences should enhance the quality of the neighbourhood, which this project hardly does.

Such a large project will have a major impact on the look and feel of Old Town for a very long time. It would be a shame if the City allowed such an inferior project to proceed. I am writing as a long time downtown resident and voter, interested in architectural integrity of our city scape. Please insure that downtown Victoria continues to be a great place to live.

Robert Florida,
732 Cormorant St, Apt 605