

Rob Kolton  
834, 1206 Johnson Street  
Victoria, BC

By email to [publichearings@victoria.ca](mailto:publichearings@victoria.ca)

City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 1P6

Dear Sirs:

RE: Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaws (No. 1098) No. 17-045

I am writing to you related to the public hearing related to the amendment to the above bylaw to permit a storefront cannabis retailer on Lot 379, Victoria City.

I am the owner of a property directly across the street from the proposed retail establishment and I am opposed to the changes to the bylaw which affect 851 Johnson Street. I purchased the property in August of 2016. My reasons for opposing the bylaw amendment are as follows:

1. Parking – currently there is a parking lot at 845 Johnson Street, adjacent to the property under consideration which has recently received approval for high density commercial and retail development. The loss of this parking will not provide adequate parking to support the proposed retail business without the property owners providing adequate parking on their property.
2. Directly across the street from the proposed site, at 844 Johnson Street, is the recently opened transitional housing building. There is a great deal of pedestrian traffic and loitering around the building and up and down both sides of the street including homeless persons that are partaking in drugs and alcohol on the street. When I leave my building, The 834, to walk east on Johnson Street I essentially run the gauntlet of people on the sidewalk already. In addition, there are already many visits by paramedics, firefighters and police to this building, virtually on a daily basis. By adding retail a cannabis operation in that area would serve to exacerbate this issue and cause me to lose enjoyment of my property and potentially cause it to devalue.
3. The transitional housing building has a safe injection site within it and many individuals that suffer from the effects of homelessness and addiction to drugs and alcohol. It would seem to be poor judgement to put a cannabis retail store (or even a liquor store for that matter) outside of its front door.
4. There are already a number of medical marijuana locations on the street and within 2 blocks of this location. I have not done a survey, but I believe there to be 5 locations in this area already. It seems overkill to have a cannabis location on every street corner. Victoria is supposed to be known for its gardens and beauty, not for its weed establishments every time you turn around.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at [REDACTED] or email at [REDACTED]. I request that my phone number and email address not be made part of the public record.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Kolton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rob" and last name "Kolton" clearly distinguishable.

Rob Kolton