

May 10, 2016

To City Council, City of Victoria:

Re: Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00007 for Property known as 1407 and 1409 May Street to reduce the rear yard setback from 21.17m to 17.52m.

We are unable to attend the hearing regarding this matter on May 12, 2016 and therefore wish to have our correspondence included in the meeting agenda.

We strongly disagree with this application. Respectfully, the agreed-upon plan pushed the envelope for what's acceptable in this neighbourhood and was the result of a protracted process with much back and forth and negotiation. To amend it now, when construction hasn't even been completed, appears to be an "incrementalist" and back-door approach that does not respect either the process or the wishes of the surrounding neighbours.

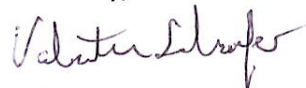
As least two existing trees that were shown on the plan have been removed as part of construction (one was erroneously called a "pine" on the plan). To us as neighbours, they were an integral part of the plan as they provided some privacy. On top of this, a new deck will be even more intrusive.

Furthermore, there has been very little time to respond to this proposal, which seemed to come "out of the blue".

We urge Council to reject the proposed Development Permit.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,



Valentin H. Schaefer