

Christine Havelka

From: Public Hearings
Subject: FW: Rezoning Application No. 00490

-----Original Message-----

From: jay timothy [mailto:]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:04 AM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: Rezoning Application No. 00490

Dear Council,

I would like it to be know that I'm apposed to this rezoning application.

I bought into this neighbourhood specifically because the homes had land and space. It is a quiet safe place for raising my children. The lots have enough size for lawns to play on and mature trees to provide an array of wonderful greenery, sound buffering, and visual privacy from the houses around me. My worry is in allowing this application will set the precedence for future applications, replacing lawns and mature trees with back yard house farms.

Density is a green buzz word but it is not greener than green space. We also need to acknowledge density is already happening, over the last years most houses have added secondary suites legal or not. It is an economic reality for new families to afford a home in this area. I know this application is being presented as a home for an aging mother but the reality is it will become a rental unit. With the addition of a garden suite there will most likely be two rental units at each single family residence.

With each rental unit comes the increase of a transient population within a family neighbourhood, bringing its own problems and potentially affecting the safeness. Parking also becomes an issue, the addition suites generally do not provide off street parking and street parking is certainly more congested that it was. My guests are not always able to park in front of my house due to the additional cars on the street from the suites near me. Only the city can comment on the infrastructure load and I can only guess there are systems that are near limits already.

Secondary suites are being added to the houses in this area, it is permitted and happening legal or not. It is increased density that can not be controlled. The addition of garden suites is additional density that will change the character of this neighbourhood. If one wants to live in a place where there are large amounts of buildings and little yard space there are many options within Victoria, this part of Fairfield does not need to be one.

I would hope this council will choose wisely and not allow this rezoning.

Jay Timothy
663 Richmond Ave