

Grandview-Woodland Area Council
c/o Britannia Community Centre
1661 Napier Street
Vancouver BC
V5L 4X4

Mayor Robertson and Councillors Anton, Cadman, Chow, Deal, Jang, Louie, Meggs, Reimer, Stevenson, and Woodsworth
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver BC
V5Y 1V4

Tuesday 15 September 2009

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

At the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, 8 September, Council passed administrative motion A1 about “Amendments to the C-2C and C-2C1 District Schedules and Guidelines” (<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20090721/documents/phae1.PDF>). The document states on page 3:

Public Consultation/Notification: A total of 1,487 notification letters, outlining the proposed changes, were sent out to property owners and business organizations in the C-2C and C-2C1 zones, and affected Vision groups were contacted. A total of 10 telephone and email responses were received and were generally in support of the amendments.

Grandview-Woodland has C-2C and C-2C1 zones along Commercial Drive and Hastings Street. Grandview-Woodland is a neighbourhood without a Community Vision, and hence without a Vision group. However, Grandview-Woodland Area Council (GWAC), the community association for Grandview-Woodland, has been performing many of the same functions as Vision groups since its founding in 1974, a good twenty years before the first Vision groups came into being. So it is a surprise to us that GWAC was never notified about the proposed changes. The Directors of GWAC are curious to know why, for neighbourhoods without Community Visions, the City doesn't consult with community associations like GWAC?

The aforementioned amendments document modifies City document “C-2B, C-2C AND C-2C1 GUIDELINES; Adopted by City Council on June 9, 1987; Amended December 15, 1987, February 4, 1992 and September 10, 1996” (<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20090908/documents/motional.pdf>). This older document states on page 4:

4.12 Dedication of Land for Lane Purposes (Commercial Drive only)

Lanes intersecting Commercial Drive should be closed when alternate north-south standard lane outlets are developed, and the closed lanes investigated for use as mini-park or sold for commercial redevelopment with proceeds going towards implementing the policies of the Commercial Drive plan (such as lane completion, collective parking, beautification).

GWAC's Directors have never heard about the aforementioned “Commercial Drive plan” and would appreciate someone directing us to information about the plan.

The Directors of GWAC would request that GWAC be consulted if lanes intersecting Commercial Drive are indeed sold and funds become available for lane completion, collective parking, and beautification because GWAC provides a forum for citizens to hear about what is going on in their neighbourhood, who are not necessarily property owners or members of the local business organization.

To communicate with GWAC, please e-mail us at gwac@vcn.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Directors of Grandview-Woodland Area Council
www.vcn.bc.ca/gwac