

November 13, 2007

Mayor Sullivan and City Councillors
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
V5Y 1V4

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

Re: EcoDensity Charter Consultation Process

We, a group of Vancouver neighbourhoods as listed below, wish to express our request for a true neighbourhood consultative process regarding the EcoDensity Charter prior to the draft being presented to Council. We are concerned about the lack of process involving communities and other stakeholders on this important proposal. **We feel that the activities to date are not nearly adequate consultation for such a sweeping initiative and therefore, there is no mandate from the community to bring the draft Charter to Council.**

This EcoDensity Charter is a foundational, far-reaching document that would permanently change the direction of policy for the future of the City. There has never been a supportable explanation as to why an EcoDensity Charter is being drafted, other than a means to override the communities' reactions to future rezoning proposals. We are also concerned about the content of the Charter and how this will affect the existing planning processes such as Visions. However, this letter does not address all the EcoDensity issues specifically, only the lack of process. We request the following:

1. **Plan, publish and execute a consultation process involving dialogue between the City, the communities and all key stakeholders prior to presenting the draft Charter to Council.** Publish/distribute to community groups a schedule for a transparent, democratic, neighbourhood dialogue consultation process, to be part of the creation of the draft Charter document, prior to the EcoDensity Charter draft being sent to Council. Ensure that the consultation is not over holiday seasons such as Christmas, or early January when many people are busy or away
2. **Provide an updated version of the draft Charter for review now.** Publish/distribute to community groups an updated draft Charter before any meeting between the City and the communities, with enough time allowed for adequate review of the draft prior to any meeting. The EcoDensity web site document is dated May 2007, which does not reflect the other work that has been done by the City since May.

Please let us know when these issues will be addressed as soon as possible.

Regards,

Mel Lehan

▶ Britannia Neighbours in Action	Pat Davitt	▶ Reinstate Third Party Appeals	Penny Street
▶ Douglas Park Residents Association	Randy Chatterjee	▶ Shaughnessy Heights Property Owners Association	Michael Roburn
▶ Dunbar Residents Association	George Pinch	▶ Upper Kitsilano Residents Association	Greg Booth
▶ Grandview Woodlands Area Council	Anne Sproull	▶ Victoria Park Group	Gail Mountain
▶ Kitsilano Arbutus Residents Association	Sean McEwen	▶ West Kitsilano Residents Association	Alayne Keough
▶ Norquay Neighbours	Joe Jones	▶ West Southlands Ratepayers' Association	Fred Wallace
▶ North West Point Grey Homeowners' Association	Phyllis Tyers		

Cc: Brent Toderian, Director of Planning
Ronda Howard, Assistant Director of Planning
Rob Jenkins, Assistant Director, Current Planning Initiatives Branch
Thor Kuhlmann, Planner, City-Wide Regional Planning