

Section 3 Council Correspondence 2019.11.14

From: David Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: November-05-19 9:15 AM
To: media@onni.com; Mayor
Cc: earlyed@cbc.ca; David Jones
Subject: Gilmore Place Tall tower plan in Cascadia Fault Earthquake Risk zone is Negligent Disregard for Human Safety !

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To whom it may concern at Onni Corporation, and also Mayor and Council of the City of Burnaby:

I am a professional Facilities Engineer who has worked in seismic restraint and emergency preparedness for the University of BC for 25 years. I am also a member of the Earthquake Early warning user group for the Province of BC. Upon hearing the announcement of the Two Gilmore Place hi-rise tower plan I am absolutely appalled and indeed outraged that Burnaby Council and the Onni company (and others in the lower mainland) would approve or even consider building ever taller residential and commercial towers in the City of Vancouver and vicinity. You are playing with fire and your decisions run contrary to protection and care for basic human safety. As an Engineer I am bound by a code of ethics to act on this blatant safety issue to the general public.

We live in the most at -risk earthquake zone on the entire planet; there are three major population centers - Vancouver/Victoria, Seattle and Portland - that any time now will be hammered by one and many more of the largest and most destructive earthquakes that has ever occurred in modern times on planet earth . The Onni company is proposing to build high rise developments that use *non-proven* seismic design; **no modern city on earth is as close to or has as high a subduction zone magnitude 9 earthquake threat as we are, nor has any city on earth experienced a close proximity magnitude 9 earthquake like we will have coming at us to show that the current earthquake designs are adequate.** Studies show that we in a full-rip scenario we will be shaken hard for 4 to 6 minutes with peak ground deflections of up to 1 meter. You have no proof of the safety of your proposed buildings under these conditions. They and the thousands of residents within will be sitting ducks.

This is an appallingly ill conceived "experiment " using humans as sacrificial guinea pigs to see whether your consultants designs are adequate. Unbelievable !

If you proceed with this development you are putting thousands of human lives at risk, all in the name of capitalism and your glory - IE Onni's greed to line your pockets and shareholders as much revenue as you can for a given land footprint, and also having the so called "glory" of the tallest tower in BC. Burnaby's tax revenue needs must not come at a cost of and risk to human lives !

Copied to:

City Manager
Dir. Corporate Services
Dir. Engineering
Dir. Planning and Building

Referred to:

Planning and Development Committee
(2019.11.19)

All of you need to give your heads a shake and give yourself a reality check. When the big one hits us the tall towers in the Vancouver area are very likely to be the place of the largest number of casualties in the region; there will be deaths both from partial or outright collapse, and also by collateral deaths from thousands of panes and shards of window glass cascading down on innocent civilians on the streets and sidewalks.

In the name of god I urge you to reconsider what you are doing, and stick with low-rise developments. All city planners need to start refusing these tall towers outright...no exceptions. The lives you save might be your own....

Thank you for listening,

David R Jones, PEng,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]