

**From:** Marg Huth [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 30, 2020 4:37 PM  
**To:** Clerks  
**Subject:** Re-zoning #17-10003

**Rez Ref #** 17-10003

**Bylaw #** 14175

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Why is the City once again selling city land? As stated in December 2019 Burnaby Now:

"Hurley and Jordan both said they hope the Byrnepark lot is the last parcel of publicly owned land that Burnaby ever sells to a developer.

**"We just don't believe in selling city land anymore," Hurley told the *NOW*. "We want to keep it as an asset forever."**

I'm assuming then that the definition of "forever" is approximately 6 months. The sale of the land located between Byrne Rd and the Byrne Creek Urban Trail (rezoning #17-10003) will benefit only one party, and one party only, and that will be the purchaser. This sale will not serve nor benefit the citizens of Burnaby either now or in the foreseeable future. Do we really need more warehouse sprawl and increase in vehicular traffic?

Burnaby has already paved over much of our green space, farmland and wetlands for the accommodation of warehouses. While I recognize that this parcel is not particularly large and is located between two warehouse/office developments, this is an opportunity to demonstrate Burnaby Council follows through with their statements regarding the sale of publicly owned land. Can we not use this piece of greenspace for the community; community gardens or simply a small oasis in the middle of concrete and asphalt?

Burnaby can and should do better.

Marg Huth  
5580 Forest St

Sent from my iPad

**From:** joelgibbs [REDACTED]

**Sent:** June-22-20 4:07 PM

**To:** Mayor; Calendino, Attilio Pietro; Dhaliwal, Satvinder; Jordan, Colleen; Keithley, Joe; Volkow, Nick; Johnston, Dan; Wang, James; McDonell, Paul

**Subject:** Selling public land again? Rezoning #17-10003

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Rezoning #17-10003, which is before you today for first reading and to send to public hearing, proposes to sell a large chunk of city land, which would make up ~42% of the total area being rezoned.

This is highly problematic to say the least, especially since it was publicly stated at the city's last land sale that "We just don't believe in selling city land anymore. [...] We want to keep it as an asset forever." Now here we are and city land is proposed to be sold for no public benefit, just to enable more car dependant sprawl and private profit.

There are numerous options for this land instead of selling it including (in no particular order):

1. Furthering Burnaby's reconciliation efforts by returning the land to local First Nations.
2. Holding the land for the time being. The rail line one parcel over from the site is an underused freight line, with good potential to provide passenger rail service from New Westinster to Marpole. This is noted in Burnaby's Transportation Plan update. Byrne rd would be a probable location for a station in Burnaby, and this land the city is desiring to sell would be very valuable to build something of significant public value when that happens
3. Use if for affordable housing, or affordable light industrial/commercial space for social enterprises and non-profits.
4. Provide the land on a long term lease to a land trust to provide community benefit.

Don't sell public land, it is **always** a bad deal for the community long term. Any public benefit from the land is lost forever, and even if there is the unlikely opportunity to buy the land back in the future, it will cost the city much more than they received in the sale. If Burnaby wants to have something built on the land, great, have the city build something and create ongoing revenue from rent, work with the community land trust to develop the site for community benefit, or build affordable housing, etc, or return it to local First Nations as part of Burnaby's reconciliation work.

There are numerous options, that provide vastly superior community benefit than selling yet more city land for private profit without community benefit.

Do better.

Joel Gibbs

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