

Arriola, Ginger

From: Joan Carne [REDACTED]
Sent: July 23, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Clerks
Subject: July 28 Public hearing comment

Rez Ref # 14175
Bylaw # 17-10003

Categories: Blue Category

Re. Burnaby Zoning Bylaw 1965, Amendment Bylaw No. 15, 2020 – Bylaw No. 14175

For public hearing Tuesday July 28

Dear Mayor and Council,

In December of 2019, 6438 Byrnespark Dr. was sold to a developer. The Burnaby Now (<https://www.burnabynow.com/real-estate/never-again-burnaby-mayor-pledges-controversial-land-sale-last-of-its-kind-1.24029847>) reported that Councillors Keithley, Johnston, and Jordan ("Once we sell it, once it's gone, it's gone forever"), felt that at the very least the development needed to provide affordable housing. Previously more than 700 citizens had signed a petition that "decried the destruction of wildlife habitat." But no, soon falls another patch of limited remaining Burnaby forest land. Why does Burnaby not redevelop old and declining urban areas before destroying limited green space? How does this fit with Burnaby's Declaration of a Climate emergency in September of 2019? What is the value of the land as a source of O₂ and sink for CO₂ as well as managing rain water?

In the Now article above it stated that, "Hurley and Jordan both said they hope the Byrnespark 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.'"

On Tuesday July 28 Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing on the sale and redevelopment of Burnaby's 9001 Bill Fox Way and 5317 and 5371 Byrne Rd. This is a parcel of rich Big Bend farmland that has not been protected by the Agricultural Land Reserve. It is currently zoned M2, general industrial, a zoning which appears to not include farming, but surely, farming is an important industry, and growing food locally is one of the big ways to address climate issues. This land should be retained as farmland, for food production, not buried forever under paving and buildings. What happened to the Mayor and Councillor's statement that Burnaby will not sell public land anymore? Why not instead, recommend placing these three parcels of land into the ALR to replace land that has been removed over the past several decades? You have the power to rezone. As you consider destroying this farmland, remember the statement of Councillor Jordan, "...once it's gone, it's gone forever," like all the prime Big Bend agricultural land that is now under a sprawling shopping mall, business parks and a golf course.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Carne, 6392 Neville St.