

13 August 2020

ATTN: Mayor and Council  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M  
Email: [clerks@burnaby.ca](mailto:clerks@burnaby.ca)

I am writing to express quite a few distressing experiences I have had so far since the Douglas Road shelter has been opened.

I live in one of the townhouses right across the green space beside Purolator. I have noticed an uptick of tents being set-up on the park and on the outskirts of the park. This in itself is not a major issue but my neighbors and I have noticed drug paraphernalia being scattered on sidewalks and right on the side of our driveway at the back of the townhouses which is a private area nonetheless and where our children play! Not only that, just today alone, there was a man shooting up right across the street in front of our home! The police was called to deal with this particular situation.

Also, I would like to mention that I had quite a scary encounter with a person I can only assume was from the shelter as he came from that direction. It happened a couple of months ago, early Sunday morning (just before 6am), as I was walking towards the bus stop on Lougheed Highway to get to work. The man came from the direction of the shelter as I was walking up the ramp to get to Douglas Road. He then crossed Lougheed Highway to get to the other side of the street. There was an ample space between us. I then crossed the street as well and that was when he noticed me. He deliberately turned around and went behind me. I asked him if there was a problem to which he replied that there was none but was clearly following me still. Lougheed Highway on Sunday mornings is pretty deserted and there was not a single car or person around that time. At this point, I took out my phone and pretended to call somebody. The person then stopped following me and crossed the street to walk on the other side. I pretended to be on the phone until I got to the bus stop which was a 10-minute walk. That person turned his head to look at me a few times. Luckily, there was somebody close to the bus stop when I got there. I have lived in Burnaby since 2011 and I have never experienced such a distressful moment until that time. That experience has taken away my sense of security and safety! I now have to find other means to get to work on Sundays because of that experience as I do not want a repeat of that!

Please be aware that these instances are happening and that they are quite problematic. I hope that you would be able to come up with some solutions to address them.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
Burnaby, BC [Redacted]  
[Redacted]