2020 OCTOBER 27 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE DELEGATION REQUEST

Dear Planning and Development Committee,

I have been given the opportunity to appear as a delegation for the October 27th meeting. I would like to address a conflict that I have found in the current Liquor Store Framework that is used by Planning.

Burnaby's liquor store framework allows for applications for new private liquor stores to be considered in each quadrant once there is a BC Signature Store operating in the quadrant. In the Southeast quadrant, two BC Signature Liquor Stores are required (Big Bend and Metrotown areas). Big Bend has a Signature Store operating, and in the view of the current policy, Metrotown has not yet met this requirement. Although the Metrotown store is not officially labelled as a signature store, it recently underwent significant renovations and now offers refrigeration - the only thing limiting it from being a signature store is it's size.

At the time the Burnaby Liquor Store Framework was enacted, there was no distance requirement between a BC Liquor Store and a private liquor store - they could essentially open a new store right next door to each other. In 2015, provincial regulations created a distance requirement between private and government liquor stores. Now, just as new private liquor stores cannot be within 1km of each other, this applies to BC Liquor Stores as well. Since 2015, no liquor store can relocate within 1km of this Metrotown BC Liquor Store. This provincial regulation change essentially fulfills the framework's intent to reserve a place in the Metrotown area for this government liquor store.

I would like to request that this issue be considered by Council, to allow for Planning to consider applications in this quadrant of the city. There are a few neighbourhoods in this quadrant of the city that are underserved and need to drive a few kms to reach their nearest store. This Metrotown BC Liquor Store may never become a Signature Store maybe when the Old Orchard Shopping Center is redeveloped. Now that provincial regulations block any new store from relocating within 1km of the Metrotown store, there seems to be no purpose for not considering new applications within this quadrant.

Thank you for the time and consideration you have given to reading this. I look forward to presenting on October 27th.

Best regards, Joe Van Vliet