

**From:** [Edith Rohu](#)  
**To:** [LegislativeServices](#)  
**Subject:** re: Public Hearing, Tuesday June 27 - Bylaw 14573 and 14574 | 7828 Stanley Street  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 27, 2023 1:08:26 PM  
**Attachments:** [HRA - 7828 Stanley Street \(1\).docx](#)

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find our letter attached for inclusion in the public hearing agenda package related to the proposed heritage designation of 7828 Stanley Street.

Kind regards,  
Edith & Owen Rohu  
7828 Stanley Street

Owen & Edith Rohu  
7828 Stanley Street

Dear Mayor and City Council,

We are writing to you in relation to Bylaw number 14573 and Bylaw number 14574 for the heritage designation and revitalization agreement for our home at 7828 Stanley Street.

From the first moment we walked into the house we fell in love with it. It resonated with us on many levels, particularly as it has been so well preserved and cared for over its lifetime.

The previous owner had received written support from the City of Burnaby's planning department for an application for heritage designation with subdivision. When we purchased our home, developers were the only other interested parties. They could have legitimately leveled this historic property and built a house of over 8,000 square feet in its place. People moving to this community are looking for new properties, exemplified by two new builds currently taking place on our street. This house is unlikely to survive another sale. We decided to proceed with the application process which had already been set in motion by the previous owner. We want to protect this house long beyond our ownership and into the future.

As you are aware the house is architecturally significant having been designed by Robert Mackay Fripp, the same noted architect responsible for the design of the Burnaby Art Gallery. One of the reasons we connected with the house on an emotional level was when we learned that the original owners were from Dublin, Ireland, the same city in which we were both born. Through an HRA, this house would be named 'The Alice & Robert Travers Residence' in their honour.

Original photos have been submitted showing the Travers family outside the heritage house, in 1921. In these photos, the beautiful veranda porch is clearly seen, which added hugely to the aesthetic of the front of the house. It is not known when or why the porch was removed. We support our heritage consultant's recommendation to reinstate this beautiful feature to be the focal point of the front of the house, as was originally intended. Our architect, who has worked on many heritage projects in New Westminster, has faithfully designed the replacement porch from the original design seen in the series of archive photographs.



The majority of the proposed new subdivided area is occupied by an old tarmac driveway, concrete pathway and a dilapidated carport. The rest of the site is mostly grass. There are no landscaping features occupying the potential new lot.



The net loss of on-street parking along all of Stanley Street will be one car space to allow for the new driveway to the heritage house. The proposed new driveway for the Heritage house would have low impact on the current landscape, requiring the removal of only two bushes and two shrubs as seen in the photo below. The grass is predominantly on City land.



Due to the initial work required, as well as ongoing and unforeseen costs of preserving and maintaining a heritage house we listed the potential new lot as a pre-sale to ensure that the process would be financially viable. Overall Stanley Street is anything but standardized in house style, shape and size, varying from large modern buildings to small bungalows as well as zoning for duplex development along the North side of the street. However, we intend to make every effort to ensure that any new house would complement the aesthetic and design features of the heritage house.

The beautiful Willow tree which is located on City land to the front of our house, is very important to us, as well as our neighbors and we have made requests for it to be protected. The City carried out extensive construction work close to the tree trunk four years ago, causing no ill effects.

We would like to thank our heritage consultant, our architect and City staff for all their support during the application process. We genuinely believe that the plan before you is the best opportunity to protect this beautiful property.

Yours sincerely,  
Owen and Edith Rohu  
7828 Stanley Street