

From: Janet Patterson
Sent: December 15, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Clerks
Subject: Seton Villa - Rezoning #19-32

Categories: Public Hearing

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TO: The Mayor and Council
RE: Rezoning #19-32

I would like to express my strong support for Seton Villa's application for rezoning in order that they may build 48 wheelchair accessible, low rise housing units on the north side of their property.

I write in support, based on my experience as a long-term North Burnaby resident, having lived in Burnaby Heights for 31 years. We raised our children while living in the 3700 block of Pandora Street and then we retired to a smaller house in the 4100 block of Yale Street. In both locations, I found Seton Villa to be a good neighbour and their residents to be important participants in the inclusive and multigenerational community that has defined this area. . Seniors from the Villa would regularly attend activities in Burnaby Heights park and the Seton Villa bus was a regular feature of Hats Off Day Parade. Many young people in this neighbourhood had their first volunteer experience at the Villa, learning about both helping and aging. I was always proud that Burnaby Heights was home to one of the best assisted living facilities in the Lower Mainland, especially for seniors on a limited income. It was clear, however, that one of the limitations in the facility was the structural impediments at the Villa for those seniors with mobility issues.

The addition of the proposed units would provide the much needed accessibility to the Villa's roster. Accessibility is fundamental to realistic housing for seniors; just as the lack of it is a significant barrier for senior's access to the Villa and the dignity that it provides. As a senior myself, I am acutely aware of vulnerabilities at this stage in life and the incredible value of supportive housing.

I understand that many those living in single family homes which are directly adjacent to the Villa oppose this project due to possible congestion and noise. I live a few blocks away and understand that the families in these residences have historically enjoyed an unusual amount of privacy and certainly. all efforts should be made to alleviate these concerns in the development of any details and design. However, the need for accessible seniors housing is pressing and great and the Villa's proposal is entirely in keeping with the character and traditions of the Heights neighbourhood. I strongly support the addition of such accessible, affordable housing to our community.

I urge you to approve and embrace this important development in our neighbourhood. Thank you.

Janet Patterson
4111 Yale Street, Burnaby B.C. V5C 1R2

From: Jan Carroll
Sent: December 15, 2020 12:00 PM
To: Clerks
Subject: Seton Villa Rezoning 19-32

Categories: Yellow Category, Public Hearing

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing today to express my wholehearted support for the proposed housing project at Seton Villa. My mother spent many happy years at Seton Villa before requiring additional care and being transferred to another facility. I strongly believe it is important to provide safe, affordable housing for our valued seniors in Burnaby!

Kindest regards,

Janet Carroll
8064 Westlake Street
Burnaby, BC
V5A 2B4



Dec 15, 2020

Mayor Mike Hurley
and City Councillors
City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Re: Rez #19-32

Dear Mayor Hurley and Council,

In response to this week's Public Hearing on the proposed new building for Seton Villa (Action Line Housing Society) in Burnaby Heights, the Heights Merchants Association wished to express our general support for the project.

We recognize that no project is perfect, and that those immediately near the proposed building will experience some changes with their immediate surroundings. However, when one weighs some potential challenges against what the project offers our community at large, it is something of tremendous net value.

The Heights is a remarkable place with strong social connectivity. One of the biggest reasons for this, is because those who have lived in Burnaby Heights for most, or even all, of their lives actually remain here in their senior years. Seton Villa, as a comprehensive supportive housing residence, is able to help local seniors "age in place" within their community. Furthermore, with Baby Boomers now in their senior years, the number of older community members needing housing will only increase. Besides being valuable neighbours and part of our community's historical "continuity" – they are also cherished customers and friends to our merchants. We do not wish these special people to have to leave our community when they enter those years requiring more support.

One day, those of us in our 40s and 50s today who live in this community – perhaps even the merchants themselves (after all, half of the business owners live in the vicinity) – will be grateful that Seton Villa would have the capacity to take us as their residents. All because of a special development that allowed Action Line Housing to expand its capacity and services to their residents.

Sincerely,

Isabel Kolic
Executive Director