

JUL 05 2016

ITEM: 8.19 CPC2016-49
Distribution
CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

RE: Public Hearing on Planning Matters, Bylaw 139-144D2016

Date: Tuesday July 5th, 2016, rescheduled from Monday July 4th, 2016

Dear Councillor Chu;

I understand from our Community Association President, Elise Bieche, that you've committed to seeing our letters reach your fellow Councillors. Thank you for the opportunity to have our voices heard.

I was disappointed to learn that City Council changed the meeting time from that outlined in the letter of notice that I received on June 10, 2016. I am in private medical practice and arranged to be present for the original date on Monday July 4th, but am unable to attend in person on July 5th, as I have patients booked that day.

Despite my email to you last week, I felt the need to write again because I'm unable to attend Chambers in person on Tuesday July 5.

I'm sure others will speak in detail about the ecological insensitivity, broad implications for city tax payers, and the infrastructure and planning concerns surrounding the currently proposed plan. I certainly share these concerns, but outline my greatest concern below.

Absence of open and transparent consultation.

I was happy to see the consultation that occurred with residents and community in 2013 and 2014 with respect to the developer's proposed vision for the area. There was much engagement and real consultation with the community.

At that time, I was excited to see a plan settled on at that time that was respectful of the site's natural watershed and green space in line with the City's vision for Calgary. I believe this type of plan would do great things for both property value in the community and opportunity for revitalization of an established neighbourhood.

However, I am ALARMED that no consultation occurred on the plans attached to the proposed bylaw changes. The City asserts that they "are working with our citizens at the centre of everything we do". How is considering bylaws related to a plan that hasn't been consulted upon by the citizens in line with this?

I believe that it's reasonable to expect open consultation from my Calgary and its elected officials, and I encourage Council to do so.

Sincerely,

Beth Barberree (315-44 Avenue NW, resident since 2007)