

# Community Association Response



Westgate Community Association 4943 8th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T3C2V8

1<sup>st</sup> June 2023

Shallu Sharma,

RE: LOC2023-0097

The above noted application has been discussed by Westgate Community Association. The applicant Judith Sanchez, Director, Seedlings Early Learning has been in communication with Westgate Community Association since June 2022. Ms. Sanchez attended the AGM of Westgate CA, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and gave an in, depth presentation to all attendees, questions were asked by those present and duly answered by Ms. Sanchez, please note Cllr. Pootman's was in attendance. Community engagement was undertaken by Ms. Sanchez, we understand she has spoken with 60+ residents, adjoining residents were also contacted.

This proposal is a needed service for Westgate community, currently parents are driving children to facilities outside our community for childcare. It is our hope with this service provided close to home parents will be walking to access childcare. We consider this service a neighbourhood local amenity.

There has been on-going discussion with the applicant how the program can fit with local schools. Westgate Elementary is French Immersion, St. Michael's K-9 school offers French Immersion studies. Glenmeadows Elementary school is Spanish Bilingual, we have been advised both languages will be offered to children attending Seedlings. Kindergarten age care has been requested by many residents, programs in adjoining communities, have extensive waiting lists, with no possibility for parents to access care.

The program supports the core values of Westgate Community, created within walking distance for parents and children, close to schools, playgrounds, Bus Stops and easy access to West LRT. The applicants offer to work with Westgate Community and support community activities is greatly appreciated.

Naturally we have some residents who do not support this application, for many it's fear of the unknown and change in the community. We appreciate their concerns and have attempted to resolve them.

We appreciate residents concern is traffic, we have three schools with wide catchment areas, many students are bussed to Westgate Elementary, Vincent Massey and St. Michael's schools. The biggest traffic issue we deal with are parent's driving children to the schools and not following traffic rules. Communication with CPS Traffic Section is on-going.

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We are asking for the following:

Crosswalk be installed at Westview Drive SW/8 Avenue SW – north to south

No U-Turn sign be installed at Westview Drive SW/8 Avenue SW.

Understanding there are City and Provincial regulations/requirements prior to the approval of this application.

Westgate Community supports this application and looks forward to the opening of this needed service within our community.

We are asking City Council to consider the dire need for Childcare and support the rezoning of 2 Westview Drive SW. to enable care close to home for Westgate families.

If you have [question's](#) please contact Westgate Community Association.

On behalf of Westgate Community Association

~~Pat Guillemaud~~, President

Kathy Makin, CPHR, Director responsible for Development