



Online Delegation Form

YOUR WORSHIP, MAYOR TAYLOR, AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, I/WE ARE HERE THIS EVENING ON BEHALF OF:

Shelagh Walker

TO REQUEST THAT YOU CONSIDER:

I would like to request that council initiate an amendment to the zoning bylaw to specifically prevent the current use of the neighboring property.

THE REASONS THAT I/WE ARE REQUESTING THIS ACTION ARE:

1. Having the Whispers Of Hope renting next door has caused detriment to my ability to receive adequate commercial insurance. I have three letters declining insurance from three different insurance companies. A representative from each respective company specifically stated that the location of my building has gone from a "low risk" location they would have gladly covered to a "high risk" location that they are now NOT willing to cover due to the history of violence, overdose, fires, costs of removing garbage, and defiance from WOH, and their defiance to comply with the court order to shut down due to the risk of fire in their old location. Because I own the sidewalk on the South side of the building, and I own the building attached to 7229 5th Street, their risks become mine and I would like to have council prevent them from occupying this location. Having them next door to my building, is a detriment to my business and my insurance coverage. The history of fire, needles, violence, overdose, and defiance to follow a court order impacts my insurance which seems unacceptable when there are locations available where they can contain the risks on their own property.
2. I was also advised that all the proposed fencing in top of the buildings, between the two South buildings, and in the alley would slow down our ability to escape during a fire and also restrict the City Of Grand Forks Fire Department from getting and recovering individuals that might be unconscious or injured.

I/WE BELIEVE THAT IN APPROVING OUR REQUEST THE COMMUNITY WILL BENEFIT BY:

1. By approving this request my own business plans will prosper and I plan to hire people in the community and provide jobs by either direct hire or coop.
2. I also feel other business owners in the area will benefit from the increase of foot traffic and potential customers as the houses on the bench behind and beside me have the potential to attract people who are willing to revitalize the area and invest in our business endeavors and properties.
2. I also feel the Spray Park at City Park will be a safer place with the Whispers Of Hope not being located in such close proximity. I would like to see the recycled water stay clean and the park a healthy place for the children to cool down as well as a safe place for children to play.
3. I feel tourists will be more likely to revisit Grand Forks as the current location (attached to my building) sits at the top of City Park and is a prime commercial location where business could flourish and we have the potential to make the store and sidewalk attractive and welcoming to locals and tourists.

I/WE BELIEVE THAT BY NOT APPROVING OUR REQUEST THE RESULT WILL BE:

My commercial business will not be opening if the WOH is allowed to continue in the current location at 7229 5th Street. I cannot take on the "risks" that the insurance companies consider too "high risk" to cover.

The value of my building and neighboring properties will decrease and because of the insurance implications it will

make selling nearby buildings difficult.

IN CONCLUSION, I/WE REQUEST THAT COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ADOPT A RESOLUTION STATING:

Because the City of Grand Forks has been enlightened about certain insurance implications and potential fire risks to the attached building, the Whispers Of Hope will not be allowed to operate in an area where they cannot contain all "risks" considered high risk by insurance companies. A location with adequate parking, an area to contain the foot traffic on their own private property, and where the estimated 60 patrons per day can adequately congregate without being a nuisance or risk to the pedestrian traffic and customers in front nearby or attached buildings. The location should not be allowed to open in a location where the projected 60 patrons per day will likely cause a traffic accident or disruption on the nearby sidewalk, cross-walk, privately owned sidewalk or roof top, or any publically owned property as the potential law suits on public property are paid for by tax paying citizens of Grand Forks and any pending law suits will not be covered by insurance if considered high risk. To be fair to nearby and attached property owners, the opening of Soup Kitchens will need to be implemented only in areas where the building, parking lots, grassy areas, and areas to contain line-ups and foot traffic are owned and insured by the building owner and soup kitchen operators only. Since the current location cannot physically contain the insurance risks (lack of privately owned sidewalk, areas to congregate or park) they shall cease to exist in the current location.

NAME

Shelagh Walker

ORGANIZATION

Commercial Building Owner 7223 5th Street, Grand Forks, BC, V0H 1H0

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