City Council Meeting September 25, 2023 re: Item 4.1

From: Punyalal Mahalle
To: External-Clerks

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Development Variance Permit Application 311 Ash Street, New Westminster

**Date:** Sunday, September 24, 2023 7:48:24 AM

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September 23, 2023

To City of New Westminster City Council

As a concerned citizen, I am alarmed at the continuing problem with market rents that continue to climb at the expense of wage earners who remain on a fixed salary.

If approved, this permit would not address the housing problem but just contribute to it by making it more difficult for people to rent rental units at a rent they can afford. The five residential rental units when completed would be rented out at high market rents prevalent at the time they are completed, which would be very expensive. This is not helpful to the City of New Westminster who should be encouraging a community of diversity with low and middle-class wage m earners with rents they can afford.

As a father with young adult sons, I am concerned for their future and worried that young skilled wage earners will move elsewhere when they cannot afford to live here anymore.

With friends in the neighbourhood, and as a frequent visitor to New Westminster for shopping, I find street parking becoming more and more congested. This development parking permit does not address where tenants in these new units will park if this permit is approved.

The impact on affordable housing, on the rental building in question and on the community is not progressive.

I am asking City Council as a concerned British Columbian to reject this permit.

Sincerely,

Punyalal Mahalle

Sent from my iPhone