

From: [Susan Hooper](#)
To: [External-Clerks](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Temporary use permit for 502 Columbia Street
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 5:04:17 PM

Regarding the temporary use permit for 502 Columbia Street... I am happy that New West is providing shelters for our homeless population but the proposal to increase our shelter beds by 100% is alarming. It must be acknowledged that providing services for the homeless which are lacking in neighbouring communities comes with an additional strain on our community resources (police, medical, addiction, mental health, by law enforcement, etc). New West already provides more homeless shelters than Burnaby and Coquitlam even though we have a much smaller population. If you drive through both Burnaby and Coquitlam you'll see they're tearing down block after block of older apartment buildings which I'm sure is just going to increase the housing problem. New Westminster is a small city and it is not reasonable to expect us to continue to absorb such large numbers of homeless coming from all around us. If we alone keep increasing our capacity to house homeless people there will be a never ending supply from neighbouring municipalities. Is there any effort to get other municipalities to step up and do their fair share?

Susan Hooper