C-42

From:

External-Dev Feedback; External-Clerks To:

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for temporary use permit at former "Army and Navy"

Monday, November 15, 2021 12:42:10 PM Date:

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Hi City of New West,

The idea to set up a temporary shelter at the former Army and Navy makes me feel uncomfortable. I feel like the businesses and storefronts along Columbia Street are already lifeless compared to Uptown, Brow of the hill, or Sapperton. So the addition of a temporary shelter may further impact the businesses and the neighbourhood.

I live on Columbia Street and I have noticed in the past year (since COVID) that things have gotten worse in the area around Carnarvon Street. People have been loitering around Hyack square, behind the parking lot of Ki Sushi on Eighth street, and near the stairwells on Lorne Street by the Law Court. I have seen people openly doing drugs. I have seen needles and drug paraphernalia littered around these areas as well. I agree that these people need help but the help shouldn't impact the business in the surrounding vicinity.

I know we already have a shelter and safe injection site around Carnarvon Street but the way the City is handling the current drug addiction and homlessnes in the Downtown area does not inspire me any confidence that the addition of a temporary shelter will bring a net improvement to the Downtown Core.

I want to see Downtown businesses flourish and the neighbourhood improve and I don't think setting up a temporary shelter is the right decision when the storefronts have been struggling to stay afloat.

Thank you for taking your time to read my comments.

Sincerely, Jack