
From: Yulia Y S22(1) Personal Information
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2025 5:01 PM
To: Mayor and Councillors
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Temporary Use Permit TUP00038 – 40 Begbie Street

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed Temporary Use Permit (TUP00038) for 40 Begbie Street. As a resident living in the immediate area, I am deeply concerned about the impact this facility will have on public safety and the well-being of families and businesses in our community.

Over the past year, our neighborhood has seen a troubling rise in safety-related incidents. There was a mid-day shooting on our block, repeated instances of human waste left at the entrance to our parkade, and individuals frequently blocking access to our building. Most disturbingly, just this past Saturday at 8:30 a.m., a deceased person was found outside our building.

Many families have chosen to live in downtown New Westminster because of proximity to public transit, which we are largely encouraged to use. But these families — and especially our children — should not be subjected to scenes of trauma and ongoing security threats.

New Westminster is the second densest city in Canada, and the downtown area is rapidly growing. Multiple new high-rise developments are being added to the neighborhood, meaning more families and children will be living in close proximity to this proposed site. We need infrastructure and services that support safe, vibrant communities — not more risk and instability.

While I understand and support the need to help vulnerable individuals, the burden of harm reduction services has been overly concentrated in the downtown core. Meanwhile, small businesses on Columbia Street continue to suffer frequent break-ins and vandalism.

Downtown New Westminster has incredible potential as a historic and cultural center of the region, but that future is being undermined by decisions that ignore the lived reality of local residents.

I respectfully urge Council to reject this application and pursue a more balanced, city-wide approach to social services — one that considers the safety, dignity, and well-being of ALL community members.

Sincerely,
Yulia Yakovyna