

November 06,2019

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing because I want my opinion to be heard regarding " City of Merritt Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 2275,2019-1330 Pine Street. Accept this letter as my written submission to be included for the Public Hearing on November 12th,2019.

I have repeatedly been told that this vote is for the Bylaw to Amend, and not for the proposed development, but we all know that this amendment is for the developer to move forward with a strata of 18 lots at 1330 Pine St. I may not be aware of all the nuances of municipal protocol, but I do know what I envision for the area that I have lived in for 27 years; "retain the semi-rural character" as our OCP states. I am not a N.I.M.B.Y. I am not against development and change for our neighbourhood. I would just like to see decisions made responsibly and suitably for our community.

The vision of the OCP for Collettsville is accurate, costing many thousands of dollars, it came together with the input of Merritt's residents and a public hearing with referrals of many expert reports. It is not a " Band-Aid" of an OCP as one councilman has stated. The amendment now being considered, makes a " Band-Aid " OCP. Yes, some areas of Merritt do need amendments, but not Collettsville. We Are Unique! 5.4.9.2 (Direction for Future Development), "maintain the semi-rural form and character of the neighbourhood". This enclave is a safe place where families can bike together, and a safe place for seniors to walk their dogs. Yes, R2 is zoned elsewhere in Collettsville, but not for a strata development that will increase vehicle traffic. I have grandchildren that live on Pine Street. Pine Street is one way in and one way out, with no sidewalks, and 1330 is at the very end. With 18 lots comes possibly 18 or more vehicles driving in and out of the neighbourhood; increasing traffic enormously! I am worried! I am concerned for their's and other's safety. I am on Fir Ave. and have already seen an increase in vehicle traffic since the development of homes on Fir Rd!

This Bylaw to Amend Bylaw No.2187,2015 is not for the benefit of all parties as Merritt's " Guiding Principles for Development " states it should be. This Bylaw to Amend is for an 18 unit strata and those that will financially gain; the developers.

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Merritt BC

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