

Subject: Seymour Local Plan - IMPORTANT
Date: Mon, 17 Jun 2002 16:42:46 -0700
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Dear Seymour Residents!

After 5 (five) years we are finally nearing the end. With a bit of luck the Seymour Local Plan (SLP) will go to a Public Hearing in September and hopefully be adopted in October BEFORE the November 16, 2002, municipal election.

However, before we get that far it is extremely important that the residents of Seymour understand what the plan is all about.

You may have received the flyer from the North Vancouver District (we received ours on 06/13) concerning the SLP. What the SLP committee decided to do was to take the plan out to the public in the next week or so, and you will, therefore, be able to view the plan between June 21 and June 24 at **OPEN HOUSES** at the following locations:

Ron Andrews

Parkgate

the Deep Cove Theater

Icesports (for Blueridge Good Neighbour Day on Sunday, 06/23)

For further details please look in the brochure or in this week's 'District Dialogue' in 'the Outlook'. Both staff and SLP committee volunteers will be available to answer your questions.

You will also be able to find the SLP itself in its entirety on the NVD's website, http://www.dnv.org/upload/documents/Council_Reports/Draft_SLP.htm

In addition there will be a joint Blueridge Community Association/Seymour Community Association meeting held at Parkgate on Wednesday, June 19, at 7.30 PM where the various aspects of the SLP will be explained.

After numerous surveys and consultation with the Seymour residents the SLP covers many aspects of our lives in Seymour such as parks and recreation, environment, community services, economic development, housing and schools. However, what has proved to be the most controversial is the aspect of RESIDENTIAL GROWTH.

Not that the committee members wanted it, but because the residents in ALL surveys done asked for LOW residential growth in Seymour (in fact the last survey performed by an independent company, Mark Trend, showed that 58 pct of the residents asked wanted NO growth at all in Seymour!) the SLP

proposes the following COMPROMISE:

- it accommodates average annual growth of 50 UNITS PER YEAR
- it uses 5-year PHASES to account for variation on the average
- it includes development on neighbouring Tsleil-Waututh and Maplewood lands (although we have no say in these matters, they will strongly affect the rest of Seymour).

Already now, before the SLP has even gone out to the public, some Councillors have started expressing concerns about the proposed RESPONSIBLE approach to development. Councillor Denault has e.g. publicly stated that 'this Plan is a farce' and 'I don't want my name attached to this'.

It doesn't really matter at this point what our various Councillors think. What really matters is what YOU think.

Since this plan will be in effect for 20 YEARS I hope you will understand that this is extremely important. Not just to view the SLP, but also to comment on it.

I would urge you all to take the time to go and see the displays at the above locations and ask any questions you might have from the staff and volunteers.

Comment sheets will be available and I would STRONGLY recommend that you fill these in and let the SLP committee know how YOU feel about the plan after having familiarized yourself with it. We expect the Seymour residents to point out what they may NOT like in the SLP, but even if you do agree with the plan (which IS a compromise between different residential growth philosophies) we would very much like to hear from you. PLEASE DO take the time to say that you support the plan, or point out what you may NOT like in the plan.

MOST IMPORTANTLY: let your views be known at the time of the Public Hearing(s). This is the most crucial time to be heard (in person, by letter, by fax or by e-mail), as this is what Council will (or should) pay the most attention to. It is crucial that you express your opinions, as others will, otherwise, decide how YOUR Seymour will look like over the next 20 years. I will remind you again when we get closer to the Public Hearing(s)!

You can rest assured that those, who favour developments (including of their own pieces of land) will be present and will promote and push their own projects. This can be countered, but only if ordinary residents like ourselves

take the time to tell Council what our vision is for Seymour. The decision rests with YOU.

Please do feel free to pass this e-mail on to any other parties who are interested in and care for Seymour's future.

Best regards,

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