

**Subject:** [Fwd: Public Hearing Input for Bylaw 7420]

**Date:** Tue, 16 Dec 2003 12:47:54 -0800

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject:** Public Hearing Input for Bylaw 7420

**Date:** Tue, 16 Dec 2003 11:48:58 -0800

**From:** Angela Trudeau <a.trudeau@canada.com>

**To:** dnvCouncil@dnv.org

**CC:** FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>, Doug Allan <AllanD@district.north-van.bc.ca>,

Richard Zerr <ZerrR@district.north-van.bc.ca>

**Dear Mayor and Council**

**Regarding: BYLAW 7420 - THE DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER ZONING BYLAW, 1965, REZONING BYLAW 1189**

Applicant: Mosaic Windridge Holdings Ltd.

Dear Mayor and Council:

There comes a time in most people's lives when a flight of stairs is a daunting thing – but for many seniors and for people with disabilities, they are a barrier.

Many public buildings in North Vancouver - schools, churches, shops, business places and government offices - have been built or modified to provide barrier-free access. But try finding a place to live in North Vancouver if you can't run up and down a few flights of stairs every day!

Suddenly our community doesn't seem so welcoming. Removing barriers to public buildings requires making adjustments and modifications. If we want a community where everyone can live, then we need to make adjustments and modifications to our housing as well. Many changes can be made by an occupant – but

there is simply no work-around for a flight of stairs.

The Windridge Drive / Mosaic proposal is to build ‘traditional’ three story townhouses. That is a project which is *easy* for the developer; its cookie cutter design. But it means only young families with large mortgages will live here – no single people, no seniors, no disabled people.

I appreciate that this developer may not wish to build a congregate care facility. That’s a shame, because the location makes this such a logical business decision. **But surely we can look for a mixture of units – some multi-story and some level access – some large and some small.** It doesn’t mean that every home must provide level access, but a mixture – perhaps 30% single level homes – will provide choices for individuals and diversity for our community.

We can be proud of how welcoming our community’s public places are. This didn’t just happen – we made it happen by making it a priority and working on it. It certainly would not have happened if we left it up to developers. And that’s the way it should be – a developer serves a specific business interest – its up to us to look out for the broad community interest.

We have agreed that seniors housing is a high priority and a desperate need. So its up to us - all of us - Council, the community and developers; to look at every project – to ask “*how can we make it possible for everyone to live here?*”

Sincerely

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