

Subject: [Fwd: Re: Lynn Valley OCP]

Date: Mon, 29 Nov 2004 14:01:13 -0800

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Re: Lynn Valley OCP

Date: Mon, 29 Nov 2004 09:48:49 -0800

From: Dan Ellis <ELLIS7880@shaw.ca>

To: Mayor and Council - DNV <Council@dnv.org>, Maureen Bragg <m.bragg@shaw.ca>, 'Lee Gavel' <lee_gavel@sfu.ca>, Don Friesen <kfriesen@sfu.ca>

CC: James Ridge <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, Senior Management Committee <managecomm@dnv.org>, Ross Taylor <Ross_Taylor@dnv.org>, Jennifer Paton <Jennifer_Paton@dnv.org>, Donna Howes <Donna_Howes@dnv.org>, fonvca@fonvca.org, Cagebc@yahoo.com, Ernie Crist <ernie_crist@dnv.org>, cathyadams@canada.com

Dear Mayor & Council:

The e-mail below from Councilor Crist contains a number of errors. I believe it requires rebuttal, both in fact and in spirit.

The facts are as follows:

- Two community centres have existed in Lynn Valley, at Karen Magnussen and Lynn Valley Park, well prior to the recent OCP.

- As a direct result of the OCP, a substantial community meeting space at Mollie Nye House was created, adjacent to two substantial buildings occupied by seniors. According to the Seniors Association, the Mollie Nye facility currently meets the needs of many, many seniors, as well as a variety of other community users, including LVCA.

At present I understand there is some spare capacity available for additional use.

- The original OCP included some nonspecifically-labeled "community space" in the Town Centre. After the OCP was adopted, the initial Library / Town Centre project was created, then down-sized, by Council, with public input.

LVCA accepted this because by then the Archives had found a highly appropriate home at the Lynn Valley Elementary

School heritage building, and the new Mollie Nye community space was in place.

- The "community space" at the Library / Town Centre site was never committed to be what Councilor Crist has so often implied it to be. In fact, through a detailed planning process undertaken by District Staff a year ago, a group of community stake-holders went through an exhaustive analysis of possibilities for the "community space" along with the town square itself.

This information was gathered to inform the design of the Town Centre, so as to maximize the array of potential uses.

In my opinion, the vast majority of people will be happily surprised when the Library / Town Center is built as presently planned.

Up to now, community members involved in the planning of this revitalization have had their eyes wide open, and made recommendations supported by a wide range of individual experience, outside advice, and extensive consultation.

However after several years, we have had enough of the slurs Councilor Crist continues to cast upon ourselves, the process we and Staff have worked so hard at, and at the broad-consensus OCP we produced. The plan is being implemented as the community consensus originally directed.

In my opinion, the fundamental question is this: What responsibility does an elected official, especially a Councilor who is so strongly on the record in support of community-based planning, have to refrain from publicly undermining such a consensus? We note that all while all other Councilors roundly criticized Councilor

Crist's approach in the Nov 15th debate, the essence of that debate was missing from the NS News story on it. Speaking personally, I would respectfully ask everyone to contemplate what obligations are embodied in exercising the prerogatives of holding public office, and act according to their conscience regarding this issue.

Sincerely, Dan Ellis

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>
To: <cathyadams@canada.com>
Cc: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>; "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>; "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>; "Ross Taylor" <Ross_Taylor@dnv.org>; "Jennifer Paton" <Jennifer_Paton@dnv.org>; "Donna Howes" <Donna_Howes@dnv.org>; <fonvca@fonvca.org>; <Cagebc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2004 7:43 PM
Subject: RE: Larco's Preliminary Application

Hello Cathy:

There is absolutely nothing to prevent your dream from becoming reality. It is just a matter of vision and political will on the part of your community and compelling Council to provide the necessary leadership. The key is unity. I am sure Larco would be more than happy to build a community center at no cost to the District if the economics i.e. the density for the site is in his favour. This is the crux of the issue. It does not take a rocket scientist to figure out that this is what Mayor Harris was told by Larco.

The point I want to stress again is that the District can play the expropriation card provided it has the will to do so, but it may not have to do this. The District can use its resources to make your dream come true and with little cost to the community if modern development methods are applied.

As for Lynn Valley - it is a total fiasco. Don't be misled by the propaganda and by the dollar figures. The people of Lynn Valley are NOT getting a community center as promised. They were in fact cheated out of it. The fact that some politicians and some naïve and gullible community activists so called deny this is totally irrelevant. The facts speak for themselves and there is a lesson in this for the people of the District.

The community space was virtually eliminated. Did you know that the Museum and Archives project which was part of the original combined building as a \$ 1.5 million project is now \$ 4.2 million? It was supposed to be part of the combined Library - Community Center and Museum and Archives building of 70,000 square feet. It is now a library of 40,000 square foot only more or less. The 15,000 square foot community space is gone.

Just think for a moment - as of this moment the cost of the center is \$ 41 million and consists of nothing more than a replacement Library building and a 12,000 square foot cobble stone plaza. You cannot count the commercial building as community space however hard they are trying to tell you that it is. It would be like saying that Larco's office building at the proposed Larco site is community space. You would laugh your head off but that is exactly what they are trying to tell the people of Lynn Valley.

So tell me where the people of Lynn valley are going to meet?... where is the community space? .. where are the seniors going to gather? and where are the cultural and social events going to take place? Are they going to take place on the cobble stone plaza in the middle of the rainy season? Are lectures and small concerts and the chess and bridge players going to play on the plaza in the cobble stone plaza in the winter time? Maybe Zellers will provide the rain coats?

The fact is that this whole plan is a monumental hoax perpetrated on the people of Lynn Valley and was made possible with the acquiescence of gullible people and people with a giant ego unwilling to concede that they

have been misled.

But instead of acknowledging that they were led up the garden path they joined in the parade stating that the emperor has beautiful clothes when in reality the emperor is naked. The truth is that this massive densification in the center of Lynn Valley called "pedestrian oriented town center" is not even paying for the cost of the infrastructure never mind for any community benefits unless you count more traffic, more pollution and more parking problems as benefits.

It is nothing more than a densification project for the benefit of developers without a single large amenity. And this is so whether so called leaders deny it or not. I hope your people will not fall into the same trap. I am sure you and your friends are to wise to fall for tricks like that.

As I said at the beginning, unity is the key, the rest is vision and political will. Remember, if people lead sooner or later politicians will follow.

Ernie Crist

-----Original Message-----

From: cathyadams@canada.com [<mailto:cathyadams@canada.com>]

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2004 3:01 PM

To: Ernie Crist

Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; James Ridge; Senior Management Committee; Ross Taylor; Jennifer Paton; Donna Howes

Subject: RE: Larco's Preliminary Application