



West Point Grey Residents Association
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October 13, 2020

City of Vancouver Council
Dear Mayor Kennedy Stewart and Councillors,

Re: Proposed Homeless Shelter for Jericho Hostel

Agenda: <https://council.vancouver.ca/20201008/spec20201008ag.htm>

Memo dated Oct. 2, 2020: <https://council.vancouver.ca/20201008/documents/spec1memo.pdf>

Motion: <https://council.vancouver.ca/20201008/documents/spec2.pdf>

Meeting Minutes: <https://council.vancouver.ca/20201008/documents/spec20201008min.pdf>

We are concerned that Council has identified the Jericho Hostel in West Point Grey's Locarno Beach Park as a potential homeless shelter when it does not meet the approved criteria. Perhaps Council was unaware at the time, so below and attached is further information for your consideration to illustrate why the Jericho Hostel is an inappropriate site.

While we appreciate your efforts to address the needs of Vancouver's homeless population, we also appreciate that the subject motion acknowledges the need to ensure that the establishment of new shelters avoids locations in close proximity to broader-serving public amenities.

Specifically, with respect to the location of temporary Pandemic Shelter(s), Part A2c of the subject Motion directs that: "Shelter(s) location(s) consider appropriate proximities of 300 meters to sensitive adjacencies like schools, daycares, parks, playing fields, or community centres;"

Consequently, we are surprised and concerned that Part A3 of the Motion simultaneously identifies the Jericho Hostel as one of two prospective shelters to be "pursued".

With reference to the following map, attached, please note that Jericho Hostel resides within Locarno Beach Park, across from Jericho Beach Park and is a Park Board facility. It is surrounded by playing fields, and is only steps away from the WPG Community Centre which operates a preschool and popular programs for children, youth and seniors. Queen Mary Elementary School is just over 300 m away, as is the West Point Grey Academy elementary and high school.

We strongly urge you to reconsider pursuing the Jericho Hostel as a homeless shelter since it does not meet the required criteria as approved by Council. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

West Point Grey Residents Association Board of Directors

Attached Map Below

Map of area surrounding Jericho Hostel with 300 m circle.

