

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE TO MARCH 19, 2025 (8:30 a.m.)

Correspondence

- (1) Undated, regarding “Seniors' Centre traffic”**
- (2) 2 submissions, March 7, 2025, regarding Pickleball Update**
- (3) 4 submissions, March 8 and 15, 2025, regarding Proposed Fees & Charges Bylaw No. 5334, 2025, Amendment Bylaw No. 5337, 2025 (Sports Court Booking Fees)**
- (4) 2 submissions, March 12 and 18, 2025, regarding Parking on Wildwood Lane**
- (5) March 13, 2025, regarding “DWV 2025 Budget and Property Tax Increase”**
- (6) March 14, 2025, regarding Open Letter to Government Officials**
- (7) 2 submissions, March 14 and 16, 2025, regarding Ambleside Local Area Plan**
- (8) March 14, 2025, regarding Sewerage and Drainage Regulation Bylaw No. 5263, 2023 (Grinder Pumps)**

Correspondence from Other Governments and Government Agencies

No items.

Responses to Correspondence

- (9) Manager of Bylaw & Licensing Services, March 12, 2025, response regarding “Did an administrative error affect the issuance of 2025 WV Business Licenses?”**

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, B.C.

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver Mayor and Council

Municipal Office

West Vancouver

Gentlemen/Mesdames:

Re: Seniors' Centre traffic

Several times recently I have almost been struck by speeding traffic tearing down 21st street past the Seniors' Centre as I have attempted to exit the parking area. There are four parking areas the seniors use next to the centre. I would like to see speed bumps in that two block area (Marine to Fulton) to slow down the passing vehicles hopefully to avoid an accident to exiting seniors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

s. 22(1)

s. 22(1)

s. 22(1)

From: s. 22(1)
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 10:14 AM
To: correspondence
Subject: Pickleball/skate park courts Gleneagles

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To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my opinion regarding the proposal for the pickleball courts development and subsequent destruction of the skate park.

It is a huge mistake to remove the skate park in favour of pickleball courts, for multiple reasons:

- 1) The Gleneagles skate park is only one of two skate parks in all of WV. The other, at Ambleside, is designed as a beginner level course, whereas the Gleneagles is for more intermediate riders. It is necessary for more advanced riders to have a place away from beginners. Mixing learners and advanced athletes can be catastrophic. An example of this was an accident in 2007, when a beginner rollerblader was on the wrong side of the trail in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve and collided with an advanced cyclist, ultimately ending in the cyclist's death.
- 2) Pickleball is definitely experiencing a surge in popularity, which is monopolizing gym time at the Gleneagles Rec Centre, at the expense of other programmes (especially those for ages 6-18.) The outdoor pickleball courts may alleviate some of this in the summer, but as soon as the weather turns foul, the Rec Centre will again use the indoor spaces for pickleball, ushering out any programmes that will keep kids active and indoors during the bad weather.
- 3) There are many tennis courts around (Whytecliff, Eagle Harbour, Horseshoe Bay) which could have lines painted to accommodate pickleball.
- 4) When pickleball falls out of popularity, we will have four useless courts that sit empty instead of a space that could be used productively by kids and youths. With the influx of young families in to the Gleneagles & Horseshoe Bay Area, WV needs to prioritize activities for kids.

I hope that you take these points in to consideration when deciding on this project.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver BC s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 11:18 AM
To: correspondence
Subject: YES to pump track and pickle ball courts in GECC

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Hello,

I have looked at the redevelopment plan for the current skate bowl in WV by the GECC and am in favor. Actually I don't care about the pickleball but the pump track and addition of sports courts would be excellent. The current skate park/bike ramps are too challenging / difficult for most users and have maintenance issues that often cause them to be unusable.

(Plugged drain the bowl and standing water/ mud in the bike area) Hope the plan can move forward.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Eagle Harbour resident

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

, West Vancouver, BC [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 8, 2025 12:52 PM
To: correspondence
Subject: Inquiry for the " new Ambleside tennis courts charge from 8am-8pm proposal"

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address frank [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Hi Staff Manager,

I am a resident of West Vancouver. I heard about that the new Ambleside tennis courts will be banned to free open to public by one proposal from "West Vancouver Parks Department"
Can someone explain to the public the reason for it? This course has been always free for residents before, it's not reasonable to change it just because of renewal

Best Regards

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] West Vancouver, [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2025 3:05 AM
To: correspondence
Subject: Opposition to Fees for Ambleside Pickleball Courts

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Dear Mayor and Council Members,

My name is [REDACTED] s. 22(1), a long-term North Shore resident and member of the North Shore Pickleball Club.

First, I want to thank the District of West Vancouver for building the Ambleside pickleball courts—they have been a fantastic addition and are well-loved by the community.

However, I strongly oppose the proposal to introduce fees for these outdoor courts. Public outdoor facilities, funded by taxpayers, have always been freely accessible for drop-in sports. Charging for access sets a concerning precedent. Will playgrounds or other outdoor spaces face similar restrictions next?

Rather than fees, I urge you to consider alternative solutions to manage congestion and generate revenue:

- Build additional courts or repurpose underused outdoor spaces.
- Increase indoor pickleball hours, where fees are already the norm.
- Develop a dedicated pickleball/tennis facility with premium services.
- Introduce paid parking or expand food options as revenue sources.

Please keep Ambleside courts free for all and explore better ways to support our growing pickleball community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] North Vancouver, [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2025 12:52 PM
To: correspondence
Subject: No fees for Ambleside Pickleball Courts

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Sent from my iPhone

I got this from another north van pickleball group.

North shore pickleball club sent us an email on Friday stating west van was going to vote on charging people to rent the ambleside courts.

Even though this is west van it will affect north van pickleball and beyond.

For anyone who has not written yet and would like to support this cause, below is material that you can quickly copy/paste, please put YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS (if you want your email to be public in the Correspondence page, they will black out your name and address don't worry) and *demonstrate your support in under "60 seconds"* 😊 :

To: correspondence@westvancouver.ca

Subject:Opposition to Fees for Ambleside Pickleball Courts

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

My name is XXX, a long-term North Shore resident and member of the North Shore Pickleball Club.

First, I want to thank the District of West Vancouver for building the Ambleside pickleball courts—they have been a fantastic addition and are well-loved by the community.

However, I strongly oppose the proposal to introduce fees for these outdoor courts. Public outdoor facilities, funded by taxpayers, have always been freely accessible for drop-in sports. Charging for access sets a concerning precedent. Will playgrounds or other outdoor spaces face similar restrictions next?

Rather than fees, I urge you to consider alternative solutions to manage congestion and generate revenue:

- Build additional courts or repurpose underused outdoor spaces.
- Increase indoor pickleball hours, where fees are already the norm.
- Develop a dedicated pickleball/tennis facility with premium services.
- Introduce paid parking or expand food options as revenue sources.

Please keep Ambleside courts free for all and explore better ways to support our growing pickleball community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver,
[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2025 1:05 PM
To: correspondence
Subject: Opposition to Fees for Ambleside Pickleball Courts

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

My name is [REDACTED] s. 22(1) a long-term North Shore resident and municipal tax payer in West Vancouver.

First, I want to thank the District of West Vancouver for building the Ambleside pickleball courts—they have been a fantastic addition and are well-loved by the community including myself.

However, I strongly oppose the proposal to introduce fees for these outdoor courts. Public outdoor facilities, funded by taxpayers, have always been freely accessible for drop-in sports. Charging for access sets a concerning precedent. Will playgrounds or other outdoor spaces face similar restrictions next?

Rather than fees, I urge you to consider alternative solutions to manage congestion and generate revenue:

- Build additional courts or repurpose underused outdoor spaces.
- Increase indoor pickleball hours, where fees are already the norm.
- Develop a dedicated pickleball/tennis facility with premium services.
- Introduce paid parking or expand food options as revenue sources.

Please keep Ambleside courts free for all and explore better ways to support our growing pickleball community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 4:32 PM
To: correspondence
Subject: RE: street parking

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Dear City of West Vancouver Mayor and council,

I realize that you have many important issues to deal with and that the one that I am writing to you about is of little significance. However, I am hoping that you will speak to your traffic department about the following issue.

For decades people have met at St David's Church in West Vancouver to coordinate carpooling to locations up Howe Sound so as to reduce our use of vehicles. We have parked our cars along the south side gravel shoulder of Wildwood Lane, west of the church. No properties front this section of road and the parked vehicles have not interfered with the flow of traffic along this road. For some inexplicable reason your traffic department has installed 2.5 hour limit signs along this shoulder. This time limit is basically the same as a "no parking" sign as all of our trips exceed this time limit. It seems counter to present day philosophy to eliminate the ability for people to carpool and the time limit seems like a spiteful and meaningless gesture.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Vancouver, BC

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 10:33 AM
To: correspondence
Subject: RE: street parking

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Dear Sirs;

For decades people have parked their cars on the gravel shoulder of Wildwood Lane west of St David's Church in West Vancouver. We have done this so as to carpool and reduce our use of cars for trips up Howe Sound. For some inexplicable reason you have now installed 2.5 hour time limit signs along this shoulder. This time limit is the same as "no parking" as our trips always exceed the limit. Since the parking has never interfered with the flow of traffic along this road and houses do not front this area it seems both spiteful and meaningless to cause considerable inconvenience to many well-meaning drivers while benefitting no one.

Please reconsider this signing.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

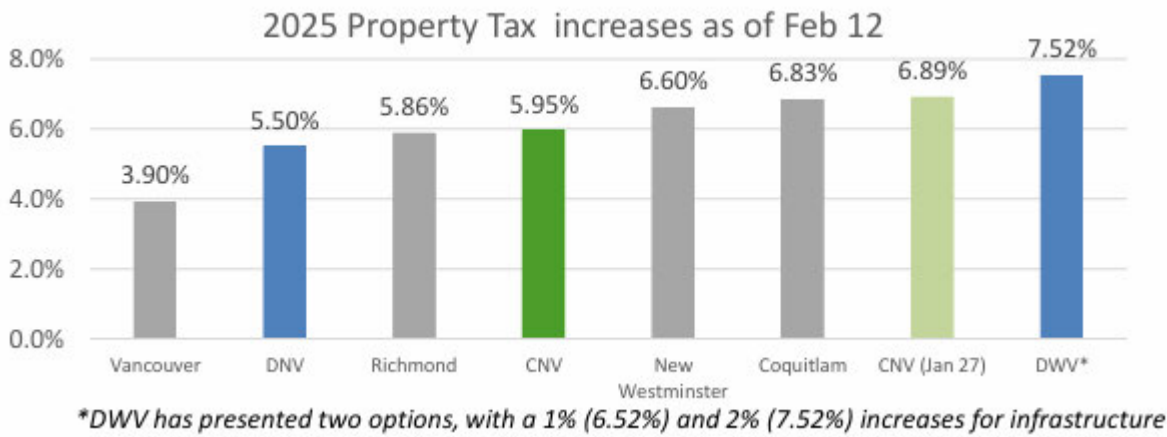
[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Vancouver, BC [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

From: s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 8:40 PM
To: Mark Sager, Mayor; Christine Cassidy; Nora Gambioli; Peter Lambur; Scott Snider; Sharon Thompson; Linda Watt; correspondence
Cc: s. 22(1)
Subject: DWV 2025 Budget and Property Tax Increase

Mayor Sager and Members of Council:

The following graph was part of the City of North Vancouver CFO's 2025 budget submission to the CNV Council on March 3 (the same day as the DWV Council met).



By cutting the initially proposed property tax increase by about 60%, the DWV Council on March 3 moved the DWV 2025 property tax increase from the highest in the comparator group to the lowest. And with no impact on the DWV's planned 2025 operating and capital expenditures or services to DWV residents. Definitely a win for DWV taxpayers.

Full credit to Mayor Sager and the DWV Council for this carefully considered decision.

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

s. 22(1)

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2025

FINANCE



RECEIVED

MAR 18 2025

DWV
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

AN OPEN LETTER

TO CHIEFS, MAYORS, COUNCILLORS AND LEGISLATORS OF ALL BC CITIES, TOWNS, AND NATIONS, AND PREMIER EBY

My small B.C. city (pop. under 20,000) is about to pass our Financial Plan and Budget for the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY2025). Our proposed budget for FY2025 includes the purchase of 9 pickup trucks and vans, 2 dump trucks, 2 garbage trucks, and a tractor. The total budgeted cost in FY2025 for these vehicles is \$3,211,000.00. The pickup trucks and vans alone are budgeted to cost \$1,271,000.00.

It's pretty safe to say these will be made in the USA.

Our city, and likely yours, is in the final process of approval of our Financial Plan and Budget for FY2025.

I call on you to move the purchase, and the budget, for all vehicles from FY2025 to FY2026.

We are facing great hardships at this time, due to the (likely) illegal tariffs imposed by the United States of America. Yes the auto industry, as I write, has a 1-month reprieve. Many other tariffs are still in place. But this one single step – no vehicles to be purchased in FY2025 – sends a very clear and strong message.

My neighbours, and yours, are already losing their jobs. We must take strong and immediate action to end all tariffs as quickly as possible. The strongest message each of you can send is to implement a policy in your city, town, nation, or province, that we will not buy goods and services from the USA, so long as these unwarranted tariffs are in place. Start this policy by moving the purchase of all vehicles from FY2025 to FY2026.

We do have the ability to keep our vehicles running for one more year. Most municipalities have competent mechanics working for the city who would be more than happy to keep fleets running if it meant making a difference. We have machine shops, and now 3D printing, to help accomplish this. There are added considerations: immediate tax relief in FY2025 when we most need it; the dollar has taken a pounding since the threat of tariffs, and hopefully will rebound once all tariffs are lifted; the cost of vehicles will be highest with tariffs in place; and the introduction of eTrucks will continue to grow.

Again, by strategically adjusting our purchases and budgets, we give ourselves leverage to ride out these unfair, community damaging tariffs.

For additional impact, please write to the following individuals with these details: your city, town, nation or province name, the number of vehicles that will not be purchased in FY2025, and their value. Post these details on the home page of your website.

Mary Barra, CEO GMC, mary.barra@gm.com

Jim Farley, CEO Ford, jfarley@ford.com

Christine Feuell, CEO Stellantis, christine@stellantis.com

Thank-you,
Kathryn*

ELBOWS UP!

**Who am I? My name is Kathryn Hjørleifson and I'm a fiercely proud Canadian senior citizen living on a fixed income. I have received no external funding to place this ad. Why am I doing this? Because Canada is facing one of the biggest threats to its existence – ironically and tragically – from our greatest friend and ally. We all need to do what we can. You can help too by harnessing social media and passing any or all of these sentiments along to likewise thinking friends of our great country!*

From: M Slater <melroy1058@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 10:20 AM
To: correspondence
Cc: Christine Cassidy; Peter Lambur; Nora Gambioli; Scott Snider; Sharon Thompson; Linda Watt; Mark Sager, Mayor
Subject: Ambleside Commercial Area Local Area Plan

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Dear Mayor & Council,

Re: Ambleside Commercial Area Local Area Plan

The Ambleside Commercial Area LAP fails to envision or demonstrate how future development will fit in or enhance the charming, small seaside village character that so many cherish.

The LAP fails to recognize that, decade after decade, residents have insisted on keeping Ambleside low rise. (Think of the public backlash to Grosvenor and to oversized development proposals for the Masonic Hall and Fresh Street sites. Consider public opposition to 4-storey buildings during the drafting of the Ambleside Town Centre Strategy or the support for the small village examples in ADBIA's *Imagine Ambleside* report).

By and large, this sentiment has not changed. **People do not want height on or near our waterfront. They want modest buildings that preserve views and access to sunlight. And they want our small, independent shops and services to succeed.**

At the January 13th Council meeting, Councillor Watt specifically asked what the **unintended negative impacts upzoning and densification may have on existing businesses**. Councillor Watt gave an example of a property being rezoned from 1.75 FAR to 3.0, and asked if rents would go up as property assessments increased.

Planning staff deflected this important question but it's critical that citizens and Council recognize there *are* negative consequences. Property owners will realize a net gain from upzoning, but it will be more expensive for small businesses. Property taxes are based on *potential* value. A lot zoned to allow up to 6-storeys will be taxed based on a 6-storey building even if it only has a one-storey building. Higher property taxes will be passed down

to business operators through rent increases. Up-zoning puts undue pressure on small independent businesses who site unaffordable lease rates as a primary obstacle.

By dodging Councillor Watt's straight-forward question, Planning has done a disservice to Council and citizens who need to fully understand these impacts.

The density proposed in this LAP will bring change, but it is irrevocable, neighbourhood-altering and unnecessary. It favours developers and caters to high-end chains who can afford glitzy, "generous-ceilinged" spaces and expensive leases. This is a very different direction and contrary to residents' repeatedly stated preference for small village character, independent shops and access to sunlight and views.

The City of Vancouver made a point of protecting "Mom & Pop" local retail in three areas (Davie, Denman and Robson Streets) by restricting zoning to commercial only. They purposely removed the pressure/temptation to add residential (which inflates property values) and were very clear that these areas are strictly for business. They also focused on adding elements that make little shopping streets thrive, such as patios, street trees, lighting and wider sidewalks. And they **capped building heights to make sure that the sun can get in** (another factor that makes people linger on shopping streets).

Planning staff are leaning heavily on the LAP survey as evidence of public endorsement of the plan. Yet only about half of the mere 400-odd respondents indicated "support", and **we don't even know how many of these are WV residents**. Such lack-lustre numbers may be attributed to the fact that many residents have simply given up. (Not surprising when more than 1,600 *verified* WV residents told Council they did NOT want more than 4-storeys on the Grosvenor site to no avail).

I disagree with the argument that it's not financially feasible to redevelop without a huge increase in density. Many places (e.g. Carmel, Edgemont Village, Steveston, Oak Bay) have managed to thrive while maintaining their small village character. By not deferring to economic rationalism these places have retained the qualities that make them distinctive and special.

However, lack of certainty is an impediment to revitalization. Property owners are reluctant to make upgrades or sign long-term leases while they wait to see what is in store. And business owners will not invest in improvements when their lease might be terminated at any moment. If Council puts their foot down and insists on low-rise development, owners and business operators could get on with making the most of their properties.

There is enormous pressure to move forward no matter how badly this plan has failed to address the community's priorities. This tendency to accept unsatisfactory results, often with the rationale that, while not perfect, we can work with it, is problematic. It's how we ended up with an OCP calling for 1,000-1,200 new housing units in Ambleside. These

numbers never should have been included in such a high-level document. But instead of insisting they be removed, we just moved on, not wanting to hold up the process. Now we have an LAP driven by accommodating an arbitrary number of new housing units at the expense of the **charm and character** of our village – **elements called for in almost every study of Ambleside’s commercial area for the last 20 years!**

Sincerely,

Melinda Slater
1058 Keith Road
West Vancouver

Please do not redact

From: SCENERY SLATER <slater87@shaw.ca>
Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2025 5:36 PM
To: correspondence
Subject: Ambleside LAP

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Dear Mayor and Council

Re: Ambleside LAP

It is with dismay that I see the proposed Ambleside LAP does not reflect the community's vision for a maintaining Ambleside village as a charming, small seaside village.

During over 10 years as both director and president of the Ambleside & Dundarave Ratepayers (now Residents) Association, I consistently heard residents express their desire to protect the natural beauty and charm of this unique community. Of particular importance were protection of views, access to sunlight and small independent shops and services. Sadly, this plan does none of these things.

During my tenure with ADRA, I and another director visited almost every Ambleside business to ask what they deemed to be the biggest challenge to operating a small business here. Among the top three issues were rising cost of rents and leases. Yet this proposal will only exacerbate this problem. Promoting large residential density increases in commercial areas will drive taxable land values up resulting in increased commercial rents, forcing out many small independent businesses.

Some years back Jim Bailey, Director of Planning, told me that even if 100% of WV citizens requested low rise in the Ambleside commercial area, he and his department would not support this direction, rather they would still recommend increased density. This leads me to believe that the vision of citizens is being diminished in favour of the Planning department's opinion.

Earlier Official Community Plans called for maintaining the "Ambleside Amphitheatre". This maximized our spectacular natural views and sunlight for all - be they residents, shoppers in Ambleside, or those seawall pedestrians literally ambling aside the ocean or on the high street. Even the peripheral "Ambleside apartment area" was staggered to ensure view corridors and assurances were given that this area would never be expanded and *never* block the Ambleside waterfront.

Unfortunately, this proposed LAP will forever eradicate the tremendous benefits of the natural amphitheatre on southern slope facing the water.

While I am no longer a resident of West Vancouver, I hope that the vision of West Vancouver citizens will be realized and that the unique charm of Ambleside Village will not be lost to just another generic residential/commercial area.

Sincerely,

Scenery Slater
1580 Dalziel Road
Denman Island, B.C.
V0R 1T0
250 335-2372
slater87@shaw.ca

please do not redact

From: [Redacted] s. 22(1)
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 12:36 PM
To: correspondence
Subject: Fw: District of West Vancouver Engineering Public Enquiry - [Redacted] s. 22(1) - Grinder Pump Inquiry, sewage bylaw regulation 5263
Attachments: City of West Vancouver.pdf; letter to the district of west vancouver.docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address [Redacted] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Hello,

Further to the emails to council and correspondence@westvancouver.ca, sent on September 16th, November 14th, December 18th 2024 and January 28 as well as physically visiting the district offices on November 13, 2024, we have still not had any further information about the bylaw regulation 5263 that was passed October of 2023 without resident consult (please refer to attached letters).

Mayor Mark Sagar informed us on December 18, 2024, that council would have a second look at this matter. January 29, 2025, councillor Linda Watt informed us that: *Mayor Sagar and a few representatives of the grinder pump community are working toward an amenable solution for all parties, and I suspect we will hear more in the coming weeks.*

As mentioned below:

- This bylaw was adopted in October 2023, unbeknownst to the affected homeowners. No consultation occurred at any point with any of the affected homeowners prior to this decision being made.
- Our primary concern is that the Engineering Department notified homeowners ten months *after* this decision was made by council.
- No other options were presented to the affected homeowners
- The inequity of this decision bears an unexpected financial burden as servicing a pump grinder that is more than 60 years old is very costly.
- Since there are appx. 150 homeowners affected, why could the maintenance not be grandfathered in for the current homeowners?

We are wondering how much longer this will take to re-visit this bylaw, who exactly is part of the '*pump grinder community*' and if the affected residents will have a say in this matter.

Your prompt attention to this matter would be appreciated.

[Redacted] s. 22(1)

[Redacted] s. 22(1)

[Redacted] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, B.C.

[Redacted] s. 22(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: January 28, 2025 11:11 PM
To: correspondence <correspondence@westvancouver.ca>
Cc: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Subject: Sewage and drainage regulation bylaw 5263

January 28, 2025

Re: Sewage and drainage regulation bylaw 5263

We are wondering when we will see a response from council in regards to the bylaw that was passed (attached) 10 months prior to notifying residents involved.

As mentioned below:

- This bylaw was adopted in October 2023, unbeknownst to the affected homeowners. No consultation occurred at any point with any of the affected homeowners prior to this decision being made.
- Our primary concern is that the Engineering Department notified homeowners ten months *after* this decision was made by council.
- No other options were presented to the affected homeowners
- The inequity of this decision bears an unexpected financial burden as servicing a pump grinder that is more than 60 years old is very costly.
- Since there are appx. 150 homeowners affected, why could the maintenance not be grandfathered in for the current homeowners?

We are still waiting for an answer from council in regards to the above matter. We have written (September 16th) to council and correspondence@westvancouver.ca, physically visited the district offices (November 13th), sent more correspondence (November 14th and December 18th) with a promise from Mayor Mark Sagar that council will review this matter. How much longer do we have to wait for this review to take place? Also, we would like to know the manner of review that will take place? Will homeowners be invited to take part in the process?

A response and attention to this matter is appreciated.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, B.C.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

ENGINEERING & TRANSPORTATION
750 17th Street West Vancouver BC V7V 3T3
t: 604-925-7020 | e: engineeringdept@westvancouver.ca



This is an important notice. Please have someone translate.

这是一份重要的市政通知，请找人帮您翻译。 | 이것은 시청에서 보내는 중요한 통지입니다. 다른 사람에게 번역을 부탁하여 받으십시오.
این یک اطلاعیه مهم شهری است. لطفاً از کسی بخواهید که آنرا ترجمه کند.

July 15, 2024

Dear Owner / Account Holder,

RE: Change to your private sewer grinder pump maintenance

You are receiving this notice because, according to District records, your property relies on a sewer grinder pump to discharge sewage waste to the nearest District sewer main.

Moving forward, the sewer grinder pump located on your property is considered part of your private sewer grinder pump system. Please be aware that the District will also no longer maintain grinder pumps on private property.

What is happening?

In October 2023, Council adopted the new Sewerage and Drainage Regulation Bylaw No. 5263, 2023. The bylaw formalizes a framework for ownership and maintenance obligations of private sewer pump systems.

Under the new framework, ownership of any District-maintained grinder pump located on private property is transferred to the owner of that property. Property owners are responsible for maintenance or replacement of private sewer systems including grinder pumps. For service, please contact a qualified plumber or tradesperson as needed.*

Why is it happening?

Typically, grinder pumps on private property are the sole property and responsibility of the property owner. There have been some exceptions historically where the District has provided on-going maintenance for private grinder pumps with no legal obligation to do so. This created an equity imbalance, with some property owners owning and maintaining their sewer grinder pumps while others receive assistance from the District.

A consistent ownership model where property owners are fully responsible for sewer systems on their private property is more equitable. The change also reduces the District's operating costs associated with maintaining private systems and allows staff to focus on other critical sewer maintenance tasks that benefit the broader community.

Get more information.

For more information about water and sewer utilities, visit westvancouver.ca/sewer

For any questions or concerns regarding this change please contact the Engineering Department at 604-925-7020 or engineeringdept@westvancouver.ca.

Engineering and Transportation Department

September 16, 2024

To the mayor and council of West Vancouver,

With great disappointment and surprise, we are writing to you in regards to the registered letter dated July 15, 2024 concerning the City Of West Vancouver's abandonment of responsibilities to our private sewer grinder pump maintenance. This unacceptable change of maintenance to the sewer grinder now becoming the responsibility of the property owner is not only unexpected, it also places a huge burden on the property owner.

I am unsure why this letter was sent to us by registered mail, and yet the decision was made by council last October (2023) unbeknownst to the property owners involved. This lack of full disclosure, as well as involvement by those affected is lacking in transparency and the procedure of sharing information with the affected homeowners was non-existent. Not only was there a lack of prior consultation, the registered letter was couriered to us 10 MONTHS after this decision was made!

The added cost of maintenance and onus on the property owner is quite significant and will directly affect us financially. Additionally, it will have a negative effect should we decide to sell the property. I have done some research and found out that the difference between the new double pump and the old one (which we have) is the way it is fabricated and installed. According to Upstream Pump Services, the old pump requires more work as it is secured with a metal rod that is exposed to the elements, not buried in the ground like the new pumps. If a pump needs repair, quite often this rod needs to be sawed off as it is rusted, and then replaced once the repair is done. This results in a more costly repair (anywhere from \$1000.00 upwards). If we were to fully upgrade to the new pump system, I have been advised that the cost would be close to \$20,000.00.

How will the district therefore compensate those homeowners now affected?

Our home was purchased on the reliability of the city maintaining the sewer grinder system, we strongly believe this, and those similar to this situation should be grandfathered.

We are extremely frustrated and upset by this unannounced ruling and would like it to be reviewed and reversed for the affected property owners.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Owners

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC

s. 22(1)

From: Matthew OConnor
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 4:14 PM
To: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Cc: correspondence
Subject: RE: Did an administrative error affect the issuance of 2025 WV Business Licenses?

Good afternoon, [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

I have been forwarded your correspondence and am responding in my capacity as Bylaw & Licensing Services Manager.

1. Did the administrative error in *Bylaw No. 5334, 2024*, affect the issuance of 2025 West Vancouver business licenses, particularly for the contractor categories mentioned?

- a. No, this was simply an administrative oversight. Our operational processes were not affected. It is important to note that collection calls are underway for outstanding fees prior to enforcement. Out of town businesses may not choose to renew their license in the District if their work was of a temporary nature, and outstanding accounts with addresses in West Vancouver will be enforced or cancelled accordingly.
- b. Officers are trained to follow up on investigations involving contractors or businesses to determine if they have a valid license, and if not, may ticket or require them to apply for a license.
- c. The District of West Vancouver recently helped facilitate a business license transition on Squamish Nation land, that became effective January 1, 2025. Squamish Nation have now implemented their own bylaws and are enforcing it as they see fit within their jurisdiction, with most affected businesses being in the Park Royal South and surrounding area. This resulted in a reduction of businesses that the District licenses, and may have impacted the amount of businesses in the 3 categories you noted.

2. If the discrepancy is not due to this error, what alternative reasons explain why numerous contractors operating in West Vancouver are not required to hold business licenses?

- a. The District is a member of an 'Inter-Municipal Business License (IMBL)' agreement with the City of North Vancouver and District of North Vancouver. This means that applicable contractors that have a home address in either 3 jurisdictions are eligible to apply for an IMBL license, that being by paying an additional fee in their issuing jurisdiction they become eligible to operate in all 3 member jurisdictions. Applicable businesses:

Intermunicipal Business Licence		
The applicable licence fee according to the specified category of business as stipulated under "Business Licences" plus an intermunicipal Business Licence fee of \$60		
Contractors as listed under "Types of Contractors" above	\$60.00	Plus Contractor Fee
Professional Services: Architects, Engineers, BC Surveyors	\$60.00	Plus Service (Professional Fee)

- b. DNV list: <https://www.dnv.org/business-development/look-up-a-business-licence>
- c. CNV IMBL list: <https://www.cnv.org/business-development/business-licences>
- d. Silverback, Davey, and Bartlett have District business licenses. Burley Boys, Coast, DC Tree, and Apex have approved IMBL licenses issued in the District of North Vancouver, which allows them to work in West Vancouver.
- e. The District approved contractor list seeks to provide a list of businesses with the appropriate qualifications, insurance, safety measures, etc. in place to safely perform the work. At this current moment, Vancouver Island Tree Service LTD and Wright Canada Holding LTD are aware of the requirement for a business license if they were to undertake any work in the District. I followed up

accordingly and notified them of relevant regulations and that a business license is required to be in place if any work is performed in the District by their companies.

- f. After a brief review, the District has approximately 16 businesses categorized as tree service, 102 categorized as landscape/gardening, and 0 categorized as logging. These numbers are specific to issued District of West Vancouver business licenses, and do not encompass those issued in DNV or CNV that have applicable IMBL licenses.

As with anything related to Bylaws, non-compliance is a regular issue, and our staff do our best to educate in advance and follow up where enforcement is appropriate. Businesses operating in the District are required to have a District license or applicable IMBL license. Ideally, we will move to a more enforcement-based approach, where resources allow, but there is clear direction for additional business license enforcement in 2025.

Sincerely,

Matthew O'Connor he, him, his
Manager, Bylaw and Licensing Services | District of West Vancouver
d: 604 925 7153 | westvancouver.ca

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I acknowledge that I am on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), sə́ilwətaʔt (Tseil-Waututh Nation), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam Nation). I recognize and respect them as nations in this territory, as well as their historic connection to the lands and waters around us since time immemorial.

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From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 5:11 PM
To: correspondence
Cc: Mark Sager, Mayor; Christine Cassidy; Nora Gambioli; Peter Lambur; Linda Watt; Scott Snider; Sharon Thompson
Subject: Did an administrative error affect the issuance of 2025 WV Business Licenses?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Dear District of West Vancouver,

When the *Proposed Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 5334, 2024* was adopted by Council last July, it appears several contractor categories were inadvertently omitted from the list requiring a West Vancouver business license. While *Amendment Bylaw No. 5376, 2025* aims to rectify the situation, I have specific concerns regarding the impact on 2025 business license issuance.

I ask this because a review of the District's online business license list reveals a significant absence of contractors, particularly in the "Tree Service," "Landscaping," and potentially "Logging" sectors. For example, only 3 out of the 9 tree contractors on the District's list of *Tree Contractors Approved for Work on District of West Vancouver Property*—Davey Tree Service, Bartlett Tree Experts, and Silverback TreeWorks—currently hold a West Vancouver business license, according to the District's list of *Current Business Licenses*.

Therefore, I have two primary questions:

1. Did the administrative error in *Bylaw No. 5334, 2024*, affect the issuance of 2025 West Vancouver business licenses, particularly for the contractor categories mentioned?
2. If the discrepancy is not due to this error, what alternative reasons explain why numerous contractors operating in West Vancouver are not required to hold business licenses?

Furthermore, the apparent lack of awareness regarding District bylaws among tree contractors and landscapers raises concerns. A business license application process presents an opportunity to educate businesses about relevant regulations and recent changes. Ensuring broader business license compliance could improve regulatory awareness and increase District revenue.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC