

September 28, 2020

Mayor and Council
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave
Vancouver, BC
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Mayor and Council,

Support for "Missing Middle" housing pilots

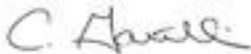
The Downtown Vancouver BIA is supportive of the council motion to enable creative and easily replicated "missing middle" housing pilots. These pilots seek to increase the supply of housing for moderate income earners and boost an important part of the housing spectrum that is currently undersupplied.

As noted in Councillor Dominato's motion, 60% of the City of Vancouver's land base is currently zoned for detached housing, which is affordable to only 5% of households with Greater Vancouver incomes. Single family detached homes in Vancouver were affordable to moderate income earners many years ago, however as the population of the city has grown housing has become less attainable. The time has come to try a new approach.

As the economic hub of the region, Downtown Vancouver relies on a variety of housing options within a reasonable commuting distance from the central business district. Working people are being priced out of the local housing market and seeking employment in other places where housing is more affordable. It is therefore imperative that we address the housing crisis so that Vancouver can continue to attract and retain a diverse workforce.

The DV BIA also supports Mayor Stewart's amendment to Councillor Dominato's motion. The pilot project will add gentle density on lots in areas zoned for single family detached homes. This is a step in the right direction towards a more equitable housing market.

Sincerely,



Charles Gauthier, MCP
President and CEO



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