

From: Steve Wright <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2024 8:19 AM
To: SouthInfo <SouthInfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Kristina Evans <kevans@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Dag Falck <dfalck@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Cc: Peter Luckham <pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Subject: SPLTC project

South Pender LTC members,

I am writing to enquire what the true purpose of the Bylaw 114 Amendments project is. I have asked the trustees for a clear rationale for their decision to open up specific areas of the bylaw but have received no response. From the video recordings and comments made by trustees, it appears the reasons to be purely political, if not personal, as there has been no demonstrable hardships due to the new provisions or that they are contrary to any policies in the Trust Policy Statement or the South Pender OCP. These amendments are also compliant with Council's Declaration on the Climate Emergency.

There have been comments made that the "public process" during Bylaw 122 community discussions was flawed but that assumes planning staff were either complacent or negligent. It would also reflect on the previous Executive Committee who approved the passing of Bylaw 122. I find these assumptions totally without merit.

If the complaints about the previous trustees "did not listen to people", are what you basing your decision upon to re-open Bylaw 114, a review of the video recordings tell a different story. In fact the LTC cancelled a scheduled Public Hearing because some legitimate concerns were raised by community members. And yet, when a number of amendments were made to reconcile those matters, there were complaints that too many amendments were made. It would be more truthful to suggest that trustees were not being listened to when they provided their explanation for the amendments.

There is an expectation that elected officials provide their reasons for any decision they make to ensure procedural fairness. I am asking once again for the reasons why the SPLTC is undertaking this project when it is evident that there is no demonstrated need, a total lack of community consensus, or that they are contrary to any current policies.

Without a sound explanation for continuing this project, I once again ask that rather than waste staff time and resources on a mission that seems to be entirely politically motivated, trustees focus their attention and efforts on matters that have more importance to our community. By doing so I believe the LTC will achieve far more overall community support and meet their objective of lessening division. That is in my opinion, where your leadership will prove more successful.

I look forward to your reply to my questions.

Steve Wright
Pender Island