

From: *redacted
To: [cityclerk](#)
Subject: April 22 Council Agenda
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Dear Mayor and Council,

I have lived in the Millar Addition for over 55 years. The current challenges facing our neighbourhood are serious and require immediate action.

The air quality in our area is consistently poor. It is often difficult to breathe and limits time spent outdoors. The air is often filled with the smell of toxins and chemicals from the garbage and waste being burnt in the open fires at the Lower Patricia Encampment.

Fires consistently burn out of control and the attendance of the Fire Department is required. We have experienced at least two serious fires this month that have jeopardized the safety of some homes above the encampment. The smoke lingered for days and many residents required PPEs to breathe. Open burning and the approaching dry conditions could lead to a disastrous situation.

Our neighbourhood is home to an elementary school, senior's facility, preschool and soon to be completed daycare. Many residents of the city visit daily to enjoy LTMP, and the Heritage Trails.

The health of the people of this city is at risk. Action needs to be taken now to prevent long term health issues for all residents.

The increase in crime has escalated in the Millar Addition in the past 3 years. Residents are subjected to theft and vandalism during the day and night. Some neighbours have been confronted by threats and verbal abuse. Others, including at least 2 seniors have experienced break-ins and home invasions.

This is unacceptable and we should not have to live in fear in our own homes and community.

I am in favour of the temporary B.C. Housing project on 3rd Avenue. However if current conditions remain, the potential residents will be put at the same risks as the residents of Millar Addition. It is unsafe and unhealthy for people to be housed across from the encampment. In order for the residents and the program to be a success the encampment needs to be dismantled, cleaned up and cordoned off.

If you offer people an opportunity for life improvement, then provide them the best conditions available to succeed. It is possible.

Thank you for time and the opportunity to bring your attention to these issues.

Respectfully,
Irene Krake

Please include on the April 22 Council Agenda.