
From: City of Prince George <noreply@princegeorge.ca>
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Subject: Webform submission from: Written Comments Submission Form

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Written Comments Submission Form

Submitted on Sun, 06/11/2023 - 16:32

Contact Info

Contact Info

Dianne J. Hewitt
Redacted - 6100 O'Grady Road
Prince George, BC
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Comments

For which application would you like to provide comments? (One form per application)

RZ100707 - Bylaw 9409 (6100 O'Grady Road and 5958 Stringer Crescent) - Meeting Date: June 12, 2023

Comments

Dear City of Prince George Representatives,

Prince George Mayor, Counsellors, et al

I am writing this letter to express opposition and concern about the development in College Heights, in particular, the development around the O'Grady Trailer Park. I have been a resident of the Trailer Park since 2001, and have already witnessed very poorly planned development, without much regard for public safety AND absolutely no regard for greenspace for a huge variety of wildlife.

Since those new Apartments were built a few years ago, the vehicle traffic AND pedestrian traffic has increased to the point of it being UNSAFE for both! My son and I have had MANY close calls in and around the intersection of Domano and O'Grady, all the way to the entrance of Home Depot on O'Grady, both in our vehicle and on foot.

As a driver, there is much frustration and risk involved in exiting the parking lot, either turning right or left. Pedestrian safety is a serious concern, in particular at the crossing at the exit of the parking lot (on to O'Grady) because 1) there is RARELY any paint on the roadway or signs for a crossing, AND 2) most people driving are looking left for an opportunity to advance, and very often are not aware of pedestrians crossing (coming from their right) which includes many younger kids, walking or on bikes. One time my son and I were waiting for the truck to turn at that spot, and as we stepped out, the driver lost his load of tin roofing and plywood RIGHT AT OUR FEET! All because he was 'under pressure' waiting for his turn, and when he booted it, with the slight incline of the road, boom, the whole load could have literally killed, or seriously injured, both my son and I.

The vehicle and foot traffic issue was NOT DEALT WITH >>AS PROMISED <<PRIOR TO THOSE APARTMENTS being built and nothing, absolutely nothing has gotten better. The ONLY thing I have witnessed is the traffic lights turn signals now have an arrow for left turns...whoppie do, which has absolutely had no effect on the amount of traffic at that intersection. It is honestly only a matter of time before someone will be killed, most likely as a pedestrian, and all I can say is I sure hope it's not a child.

College Heights neighbourhood has a certain population BUT you must also consider that people from ALL OVER PG and FROM OTHER CITIES COME TO SHOP IN THIS NEIGHBOURHOOD. We have a HUGE draw, especially for Walmart. Yes, every neighbourhood has its "peak traffic times", but realistically, you cannot predict every scenario. It is so ridiculous to intentionally increase a neighbourhoods population WITHOUT PROPER PLANNING! It was terrible before those apartments and it has gotten worse!

I understand the facts about private land being sold for development, and I support development in the city, and of course I support more housing BUT cramming and congesting an already crammed and congested neighbourhood is NOT the answer. It seems that mindset of the city is to INCREASE THE POPULATION DENSITY TO MEET SOME MANDATE ABOUT "HIGH DENSITY LIVING"...which apparently College Heights does not meet? Many, many years ago, this neighbourhood was PLANNED to be a certain way, with a certain population, a certain area of town with lots of greenspace to accommodate the incredible wildlife that travels from the river to outlying areas. Seemed like a well thought LONG TERM plan but feels now like that is out the window. Cram the people in NOW and we can deal with the problems LATER = Seems like the NEW plan. We do not live on an Island, we have plenty of room to EXPAND! Please stop CONGESTING!

Yes, times change and we need more ROOM TO EXPAND, but why are you all trying to cram the population of certain established neighbourhoods, INSTEAD of pushing this HIGH DENSITY LIVING NONSENSE to more appropriate areas?

This is NOT why I CHOSE to live here, in this city.... and in this neighbourhood.

Regarding the wildlife in the area, the Trailer Park itself is surrounded with greenspace that house an incredible amount of wildlife, and many larger animals actually give birth in this area. To list what I have seen, deer, moose, bear, fox, rabbit, coyote, bobcat, grouse, most of which I have captured on my security cameras. Many of those animals actually give birth and hide out in the forest behind me. We also have a variety of owls and other birds of prey, hawks and eagles, and dozens of song birds.

There is plenty of wildlife that actually breeds in this area, or uses the greenspace to travel to and from the river. Many cities in Canada try to accommodate, or at least consider, wildlife. PG seems to disregard or have any considerations for wildlife, and perhaps the plan is to eliminate green space to reduce risk of human interaction....? Not sure, but it does seem like the City of PG wants to get rid of so much greenspace, instead of pushing outwards towards City limits, Where animals can get pushed out and at least not CUT OFF . So many problems already with bears and the destruction of their dens, no wonder when humans are gobbling up all the

greenspace. Just my opinion and what I see.

I, Dianne Hewitt, resident in the College Heights area, am totally opposed to the development planned in and around the College Heights Residential Home Park.

Dated this 11th day of June in the year 2023.