

February 17, 2023

Mayor and Council
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Re. Rezoning Roundhouse at Bayview Place

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce is a strong supporter of increasing housing supply in our region. The Roundhouse at Bayview Place is an exciting project that proposes to add a significant mix of housing units to the Vic West neighbourhood. Along with a plan for affordable homes operated by the Greater Victoria Housing Society, which The Chamber has previously voiced support for, I encourage council to move forward with the proposal to rezone land needed to viably achieve the vision expressed by the developers and the community. The rezoning application — REZ00729 # 251 - # 259 Esquimalt Road, 45 Saghalie Road, 355 Catherine Street and # 200 - # 210 Kimta Road — has been moving through official channels. However, there is a renewed urgency to provide certainty to this project.

I believe the benefits of the Roundhouse at Bayview Place are important for creating economic resiliency through increased housing supply and improved access to homes that workers can afford. The project will also benefit the neighbourhood as it continues to undergo a positive transformation — adding to the appeal of Victoria and our region overall. The existing businesses in the area benefit from the increased livability that comes with greater walkability as well as the presence of more people calling the area home. This will be enhanced by the prospect of new retail initiatives attracted to the neighbourhood because of the energy and vibrancy that comes with density.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust you will see the benefits this proposal has for celebrating a historical place in our city by providing new opportunities for future generations.

Sincerely,



Bruce Williams
CEO, Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce