

Heritage Vancouver

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September 8, 2016

Joe Bosnjak, Project Coordinator

Re: 3594 Main Street

Dear Mr. Bosnjak,

Heritage Vancouver is concerned with the ongoing erosion of Main Street as a social artery that provides spaces for the residents of the neighbourhood to interact, walk, cycle, shop - that is to say provide the amenities of a liveable, environmental and socially responsible neighbourhood. These streets are woven into the fabric of our city and are at the heart of the character of our neighbourhoods.

The residential entrances of the proposed development at 3594 Main street will erode the existing street fabric of Main Street by deleting a well used patio that is set back from the sidewalk running along 20th Avenue (operated by Bean Around the World for the past 15 years). The proposed treatment will decrease street appeal by disrupting the continuity of commercial spaces and the pedestrian interest that the shop windows as well as the patio generates. This is an important corner that supports a great deal of ancillary activity and is widely considered one of the plazas on the strip; a fact which the development does not seem to acknowledge.

Heritage Vancouver considers the treatment of the street by this development unconscionable in that it fails to address the need to maintain the amenities that our shopping streets provide neighbourhoods while we try and achieve our goals to densify and become a more liveable green city. In our opinion projects that fail to appreciate, incorporate and enhance these attributes will lead to the inexorable death of what makes these streets a magnet for residents, and our City a desired place to live and should therefore not be supported.

For these reasons Heritage Vancouver requests that the City of Vancouver require the development to revisit the treatment of the street and provide a solution that is respectful of the street life that currently exists at this location while ensuring that the goals of density, environmental responsibility, and the promotion of healthy living are balanced.

Sincerely,

Javier Campos, President Heritage Vancouver Society