

From: [Simon Bergen](#)
To: [Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: PH/M 4: BYLAW 2375, 15053 Marine Drive - Cannabis Store
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To: Mayor and Council

I fully support the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit for a cannabis store at 15053 Marine Drive. My reasons are as follows:

1. White Rock is a city of seniors. Many seniors now use cannabis, especially CBD products for sleep and pain management.
2. More competition is needed. The City has only 1 cannabis store and is adjacent to the large population of Surrey which has none. The other store is on the local First Nations property and they are doing a booming business.
3. Some people still have doubts about cannabis and view it as an illegal drug. This stigma persists particularly for some older people. Yet even Obama said during an interview with the New Yorker magazine "I don't think it is more dangerous than alcohol". In fact he admitted to having smoked it himself. Yet we have many establishments on Marine Drive that sell liquor. And cannabis comes in many forms. Most consumption of cannabis is NOT by smoking it. The Canadian Centre for Addiction and Mental Health chief of medicine in psychiatry, Dr. Peter, Selby, says "at a population level, alcohol is more harmful than cannabis". The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction research policy analyst, Catherine Paradis, says that "all the data we have right now suggests that alcohol causes more harm than cannabis". It is time to confront the naysayers with the facts as provided by the scientific community.
4. My wife and I loved the excellent restaurant, Giraffes, that formerly existed at this spot. We wish it had not left. But for well over a year this location has sat empty. It should be used to provide the public a legal product in high demand instead of a highly visible empty storefront that is an embarrassment to our beautiful City by the Sea.
5. The temporary use permit allows the council to reconsider the location of the store after 2 years.
6. The store will bring much needed customers to the waterfront increasing parking income for the City as well as welcome income for other businesses.

I trust that you will consider the positive benefits I have outlined above and give Council approval to this application.

Simon Bergen-Henengouwen, P.Eng. (retired)
602-15015 Victoria Ave.
White rock, BC
V4B 1G2