

Proposed Shelter Relocation for Sechelt

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SUMMARY REPORT

Background

On August 16, 2017, approximately 165 people participated in a public information meeting to discuss the proposed relocation of the existing shelter at St.Hilda’s to district-owned land on the northeast corner of the intersection of Ebbtide Street and Trail Avenue. The meeting took place from 5-7p.m. at the Seniors Activity Centre in Sechelt.

The event was promoted through the following means: notices sent to 190 neighbours (distributed by District of Sechelt), advertisements in the two local newspapers for two weeks, invitations to district council.

Input Process

Participants in the meeting had an opportunity to visit different stations to learn more about how the shelter will be operated (staffed by RainCity Housing), how the site was selected (staffed by BC Housing), and what the shelter will look like (staffed by the architect and BC Housing). At each station, staff members were on hand to answer any questions and capture feedback on a flip chart.

Comment forms were also available for people to complete and submit. In total, 65 comment forms were submitted during the meeting with a further 61 comments sent via email to BC Housing (the community relations inbox) or through the District of Sechelt office.

Sources of Feedback

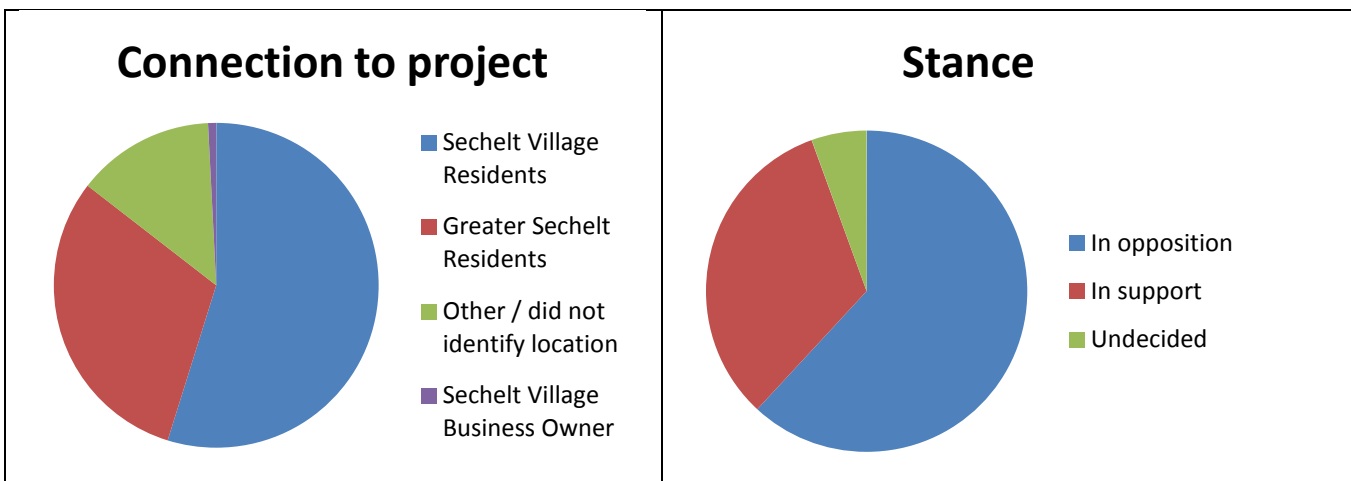
This summary report reflects all the comments – on the flip charts, comment forms and submitted via email - gathered up to and including August 31, 2017. Input will continue to be collected and noted.

Summary of Comment Forms

A total of 126 individuals have submitted comments about the proposed relocation of the shelter.

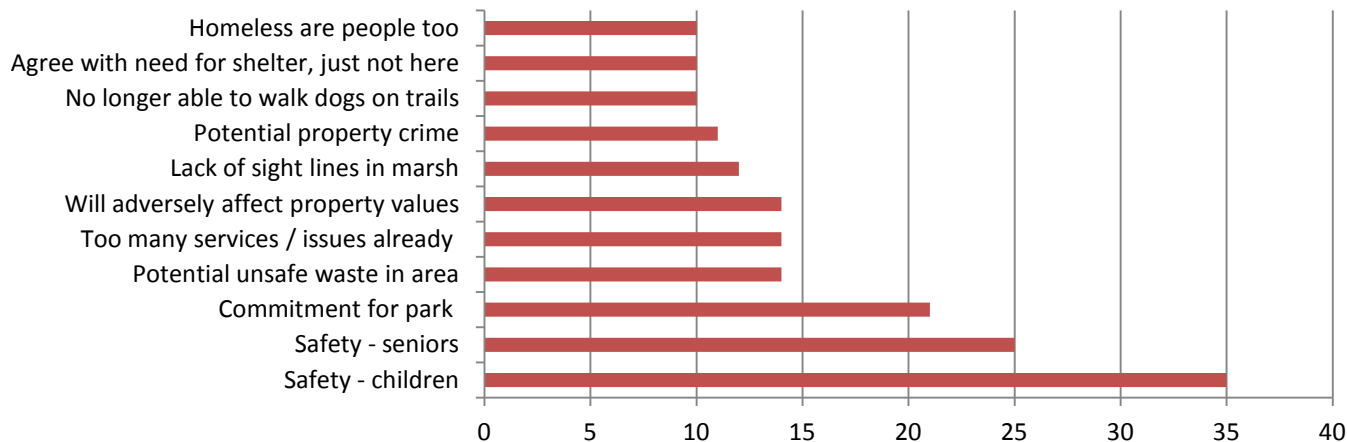
- 78 are opposed to the location – 62%
- 41 are in support of the location – 33%
- 7 undecided – 5%

Meeting submissions	Email submissions
65 forms were submitted at the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42 were Sechelt Village Residents • 11 were Greater Sechelt Residents • 11 were ‘Other’ • 1 was a Sechelt Village Business Owner 	61 comments were submitted via email (3 duplicates) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 from Sechelt Village Residents • 28 from Greater Sechelt Residents • 6 who did not identify their location
50 are in opposition	28 are in opposition
11 in support	30 are in support
4 are undecided / have questions	3 are undecided / have questions



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Top Ten Comments



Input Summary

The chart below is organized into themes of input, noting specific comments and their frequency (limited to comments mentioned more than once), listed in order of themes receiving the most comments.

Theme	Specific comments	# mentions
Safety	Concern for vulnerable people in area.	children: 35 seniors: 25
	Uncapped syringes, garbage, cans, condoms, defecation in marsh.	14
	Concern around the lack of sight lines in marsh.	12
	Property crime (including cars).	11
	No longer able to walk dogs in area.	10
	General fear of not being safe.	8
	Vandalism.	4
	Danger to women's shelter.	4
Waste treatment plant – chemical risk to shelter.	4	
Lack of fairness to area	Commitment for park in proposed location.	23
	Too many services in area already: drug use, sex work, campers.	14
Process of engagement unsatisfactory	Want a dialogue/ format waste of time / voice not heard.	21
	Looks like a done deal / process board shows decisions done.	7
	Lack of notice for meeting.	5
	Venue was awful.	4
	District should have been made aware.	2
	Public should be consulted before choosing site.	2
Potential impact on area	Will adversely affect property values.	14
	Noise in general / from emergency vehicles / currently quiet area.	9
	Increased foot traffic / car traffic (clients/staff) / transient activity.	7
This shelter is needed, agree with location	Homeless are people too.	10
	Housing is a challenge for everyone in Sechelt.	6
	RainCity is experienced / good operator.	5
	Don't lose this opportunity / need ASAP.	5
	Homeless people are from Sechelt.	4
	Shelter should be part of a community.	3
	Will lessen burden on police/hospitals.	2

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Theme	Specific comments	# mentions
What should BC Housing & RainCity consider when planning the relocation of the shelter to this proposed location?	Agree with need for shelter, just not in this location.	10
	Non-residential neighborhood.	7
	Misconceptions need to be addressed / people need education and reassurance / meet with RainCity/clients to build relations and reduce fear.	6
	Close to community services.	6
	Programs around work / volunteerism / study.	5
	On transit routes.	4
	Mixed use shelter and supportive housing.	4
	Should be bigger / base on actual need.	4
	Sprinkle shelter spaces through entire district.	3
	Policing needs to be organized for the area.	3
	Need medical support for addicts.	3
	Community should be involved / maybe garden.	2
	Need enough operational staff 24/7.	2
Should be a permanent location / not lease.	2	
Process for project unsatisfactory	Timeline for project too tight.	3
	Zoning issues / TUP only applies to commercial & industrial / not accessory use to sewage plant.	3
	Site search not exhausted.	3
This shelter model is not what we need	Temporary becomes permanent / new homeless people will come.	3
	Scale is too big - less beds / Calgary model.	2
Suggested alternate sites	First Nations lands.	4
	Next to Driftwood Motel.	3
	By Food Bank.	3
	Legion.	2
	Next to Fire Hall.	2
	Hospital lands.	2
Arrowhead expansion.	2	

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS
Public Information Meeting for proposed shelter relocation in Sechelt
August 16, 2017

1. Which of the following best identifies you?

- Sechelt Village Resident
- Sechelt Village Business Owner
- Greater Sechelt Resident
- Greater Sechelt Business Owner
- Other: _____

2. What should BC Housing and RainCity consider when planning the relocation of the shelter to this proposed location?

3. Any additional comments:

Please Print *(optional)*:

Name: _____

Address: _____