Nareka Jacques

From: Isabelle House <

Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 7:34 AM

To: Municipal Hall

Subject: Bus terminus East Saanich Road

Attachments: Sannichton Exchange Bay B.jpg; 7768 E Saanich Rd.jpg; 7784 E Saanich Rd.jpg

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Hello Mayor and Saanichton Council,

I live in townhouse complex that backs onto a bus terminus. A four business complex also backs onto it. The 12 owners of the townhouses and the 4 businesses have a growing concern around the bus stop at the corner of East Saanich and Mt. Newton Road. We are requesting input to improving the bus waiting area as it relates to a safer and cleaner area.

- 1. The townhouse property has a huge cedar hedge that runs between our residential grounds and the business complex. It is being used as a toilet and garbage dump by bus users. More and more branches have been broken off the row of trees to allow access to a now trampled walk under the trees being used by bus goers as a bathroom and garbage disposal.
- 2. The business complex has a wire fence running parallel to the tree hedge at the back of their property. They were told over 10 years ago that the fence could not run the length of their building. The fence had to end after 3 businesses, leaving the back yard and wall of the fourth business, exposed to the public. Recently the businesses repainted the complex and, the area not secured with a fence has had the back wall and door graffitied. In addition, the back yard is now used as an overflow bus waiting area where commuters smoke, eat snacks and subsequently leave garbage.
- 3. With the influx of new residents in the area, the number of people using the bus stop has increased. Smoking at the bus stop has also increased along with discarded cigarette stubs. This is now a fire hazard as the area has a major amount of dry cedar and branches accumulating on the ground. The old hedge also has many dead/ dry branches within it.

We would like to see the area cleaned out of all the dead branches and garbage on the ground. However, without additional fencing we believe this would open the property to even more bus passengers using the area; resulting in not only a fire concern, but a security risk to both the townhouses and the business block.

4. The transit system is being used more now and the sidewalk is often crowded with bus passengers. They use the back yard of the business complex and the townhouse complex's grass berm and along the cedar hedge as a waiting area for the bus. Resulting in the above concerns.

The municipal hall and the bus company have been contacted regarding what can be done to improve the area. They were unable to provide information on where the bus property ends and our private properties begin. The owners living in the townhouse complex would like to see more fencing to block

access to the path between the hedge and business fence. This would provide a safer, secure, and cleaner area between the townhouses and the business.

Attached are photo files of this area.

In closing, we would appreciate any assistance you can provide to our request for an improved bus waiting area and an approval for additional fencing that will work for residents, businesses and commuters.

Thank you, Isabelle House 7768 East Saanich Road
Dr. Janice Baldwin 7784 East Saanich Road

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Saanichton Exchange Bay B







7768 East Saanich Rd.



7784 E Saanich Rd







