

March 5, 2020

Shelley Bolser  
SDCI  
700 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA. 98124-4019

Re: #3019699-LU, 5<sup>th</sup> & Virginia, Public Comment Letter in Response to Perkins & Will's "Applicant Response" on 2/18/2020.

Dear Shelley:

Thank you for the opportunity to add to the record for your consideration several important points in response to Perkins & Will's applicant response of 2/18/2020 to my letter of December 3, 2019 on this project:

My original comments for which I want to add additional information are listed below, followed in *italics* by my additional comment today.

1. They acknowledge that there will be adverse light and health impacts to "some" Escala residents, but significantly understate reality. How many lives have to be seriously impacted for it to be important to them [Applicant] or to the City?
3. Since only "some" Escala residents will be negatively impacted, it's not significant in their mind. [This conclusion is reminiscent of some of the early tobacco impacts studies that came back to haunt us all]. Will someone have to die at Escala for the City to take these risks seriously?

*While Edward Clark and Horacio de la Iglesia both addressed the Applicant responses to #1 and #3 very well, and at the risk of being accused of over-reaching, I want to make an important point by asking a question. Would it have been acceptable to you for the U.S. to totally ignore the Covid 19 virus until there were deaths here in Seattle? Or should we be proactive and compassionate, as we have been, in case our residents were at risk, as we now know they were?*

*Trying to hide behind one person's interpretation of Seattle Municipal Code, known as a Director's Decision, when there could literally be lives at risk if this building is built as currently designed, in my opinion would be the same kind of irresponsible action as doing nothing on Covid 19, especially when the Applicant has a solution available to them in the Tower Separation Bill of 2017.*

6. They "cherry-picked" the floor levels they used, jumping all the way from Level 5 to 19, and then to 28.

*Their misleading answer to #6 warrants correction. By skipping up from floor 5 to floor 19 in their analysis, they are "writing off" well over 100 residents living in the 56 Escala units on the east side of the building between floors 5 and 19.*

7. They also lumped Escala residents into an "average wakeful daylight hours spent at home" category that is very different from what an actual survey of Escala residents shows.

*In response, they claim that their methodology was consistent with best practices in the field of statistical analysis. But that demonstrates their ignorance of statistical analysis. "Actuals" are always more accurate than "Projections"; and we have "actuals" as I noted above in #7.*

8. Finally, the Addendum wrongly asserts that the City's substantive SEPA mitigation policies do not authorize any mitigation of human health impacts in this situation. SMC 25.05.675 expressly provides mitigation authority in this context.

*Here we go again in their response to my #8, using the Standard Municipal Code "cop-out" to a serious health concern. SMC 25.05.675 expressly provides mitigation authority in this context. Quit playing with people's lives.*

My opinion has not changed since my comment letter of December 3. It still appears that Douglaston is just trying to muddy the water to get you to avoid the detailed review required by SEPA. They want you to approve this unhealthy design, rather than study the issue in detail and make

improvements available to them under the law that would yield a design that would work for everyone. The Applicant could care less about a healthful environment for either their own residents or for us at Escala. For them, this is just another out-of-state business deal. For us, this is our lives. We will not waver until we have exhausted every possible avenue to get justice.

I'll say it once again. Please do not approve this project as currently proposed and not until as EIS is prepared that addresses these important issues in detail.

Thank You,

John Sosnowy,  
for Escala Owners Association

Cc: [prc@seattle.gov](mailto:prc@seattle.gov), Nathan Torgelson, David Bricklin