

Dear Mayor and Council,

I wanted to offer a couple of comments about neighbourhood compatibility and consistent height and footprints in established neighbourhoods. I find that this is inconsistent with the need for more affordable housing, addressing climate change and the broader equity, inclusivity and diversity goals that have become more urgent during the pandemic. A quote from an article about [Vancouver's West End Challenges Assumptions About Compatibility](#): "Lack of compatibility, we're told, is the road to ruin: build something out of place, out of scale, or out of character with its surroundings, and it will inexorably deflate adjacent property values and rob a neighborhood of its desirability....The eclectic West End of Vancouver, British Columbia, is a fascinating challenge to common understandings of neighborhood compatibility. It maybe shouldn't work on paper. It's a direct blow to the notion that "compatibility" requires homogeneity in terms of building height, size, and massing. It suggests a very different understanding of neighborhood compatibility, in which eclecticism is a virtue, not a liability." Newmarket would be a much more vibrant community if we didn't systemically prevent natural growth and opportunities to live close to amenities, reducing dependency on cars. There are much more important priorities than maintaining privilege of certain home owners. How do we develop the missing middle - housing between single family homes and highrises?

Thanks,

Joan Stonehocker

