



9 May, 2013

To: Randy Stevenson

530 Industrial Ave.
Ottawa, ON, K1G 0Y9

Re: Minor Variance Application – Sandy Hill Apartments

The following comments are in reaction to the application you have submitted for a minor variance concerning the private amenity space at the Sandy Hill Apartments.

It is unfortunate that the issue of providing sufficient amenity space – either public or private – was neither contemplated nor anticipated by either the developer, the planning firm or the City of Ottawa during the planning process and until the project was too far advanced to make the required change, forcing the application for this variance. It is incumbent on developers and the City to work together to ensure this type of error is not repeated on this or any other projects in Sandy Hill. ASH believes that bylaws as written are meant to provide everyone with a framework of agreed upon planning principles to ensure a good quality of life for the occupants of a property and for the neighborhood. Variances – particularly avoidable ones like this – undermine the framework and introduce uncertainty for the residents of Sandy Hill who already feel their quality of life is being threatened by a proliferation of inappropriate developments.

Under the circumstances that this is a heritage structure that is being completely refurbished and fully reused within its existing envelope, and that this reuse is preferential to a vacant or partially occupied property in the heart of Sandy Hill, but notwithstanding the above, Action Sandy Hill does not oppose the minor variance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophie Beecher', written over a white background.

Sophie Beecher
Planning Co-chair, Action Sandy Hill