

North Vancouver School District
Public Comments - Cloverley School Public Information Meeting
Personal details have been removed from comments to protect privacy.

Comment Received
We are in support of the new Cloverley school and appreciate the extensive work done. The design and layout is well thought-out and increasing the size of the school is needed as there are a lot of young families. Transportation is difficult, but this is an issue for TransLink, not the school district.
I love the new proposed school and design of green space. As a parent to elementary age child it is very important that children have moveable space. The current set up at Cloverley is not ideal. I do not want to see an increase in cost, a delay in the school beginning built or a change to the size of the school.
Concerned re: traffic increase. Lane between Adderley. Cloverley running from Hendry to Keith. Speed bumps will be necessary as traffic already speeds down the lane to Keith Road between 3 pm later.
Artificial turf is needed.
The best scheme is scheme E. Concerned about the traffic on Kennard - my land lines up with the school. There should be no parking restrictions for property owners.
So nice that 585 kids get a school closer to their home and get education essential to their development. Education is one of the basic needs of a functioning society.
Please leave the beautiful maples in the park and the big old trees by the old school.
What will you do about traffic and parking for residents? It's a long standing issue that the stakeholders do not address.
There was a lot of good information which I'm disappointed was only available by coming to this event. I don't think there has been enough transparency to date. I see the proposed "green space" to replace the existing area however, half of it is on a steep slope and is essentially unusable. My biggest complaint is the loss of community space that is available 24/7. The tennis court is used heavily as is the existing green space.
I'd like to see the Thurber geotechnical report that has apparently determined the layout of the school. Could you please arrange to send me a copy by email? Thanks, [REDACTED]
What a huge undertaking for the NVSD! Thank you for all of your efforts to support families and community in North Vancouver. Projects such as this are what will allow future generations to thrive! Integrating child care and community space into a school setting is invaluable for relationship building and is at the core of what children need to build confidence. THANK YOU!
Please consider reinstate the one-way traffic on 4th Avenue.
Should be on the west. Save our park

Comment Received
<p>Why not consider underground parking. Will you document before and after accidents and injuries by cars to people/dogs in alley.</p>
<p>I am happy with the plan which shows the school on the East side of the property. Hoping lots of nice green spaces around school grounds. Would like to see existing forest areas cleaned up - keeping large trees but removing brush and debris on floor as I feel this is a fire hazard.</p>
<p>Move the whole school project west to the Hendry side and save a small park for neighbours. Entrance on Hendry Street.</p>
<p>West is best.</p>
<p>Consider upgrading crosswalks on Hendry and W 4th. Currently this is a very dangerous place to cross. Parked cars may block the signage - people always do illegal turns from Hendry to Shavington. This area is very dangerous. Wanting to make sure it is safe for children to cross. Consider lowering the outdoor basketball hoops to accommodate elementary school children. This is for them and they will be unusable for the vast majority of school attendees. Has a track around the field been considered?</p>
<p>A tennis court like at Capilano Elementary School can be used as public space or pickle ball courts that kids can use too!!</p>
<p>Why not put in a tennis court like at Capilano Elementary?</p>
<p>I'm a bit concerned about the misrepresentation on saving trees. It was initially stated that only 30 trees would be cut. But talking to someone tonight it seems like there is going to have to be a phase 2 of tree removal. A number of Maple trees are apparently on the chopping block. I'm a little concerned about the lack of parking. Community Engagement slide is very misleading. We've written emails and gotten no response or misdirected. I'm less concerned about loss of the tennis courts but it would be nice if a replacement playground or field were built. I do like that you have thought about parking and taken snow/ice into account after some consultation. Mostly I would be happier if you could keep more of the trees. Re: community newsletters - we got two dated September 29 and that was it. Nothing from Now 17 or Jan 5.</p>
<p>Curious with regards to the dimensions and plans of the gymnasium will it be available to outside renters? Have the dimensions and height of hoops been decided? Will it be a water based or oil based finish for the floor? Primary concern is the safety of the children.</p>
<p>1) We use the park at the site. Would there be another park and tennis courts for residence nearby? We lost our green space for kids and dog walks. 2) Keith Road currently has lots pressures under not even rush hour traffic, sometimes 2:30 pm. We had many days experience cannot go back, or drive out from our house. The new school's construction is going to put heavy pressure for residence in North Van. As long residence, we had experience long time bad traffic from the Highway project.</p>

Comment Received
<p>Most of info I was aware of from Website. Very in support of plans for build to start ASAP. Happy to see parking and drop off changed. Kennard too steep. Have concerns about safety with the traffic cutting through the neighbourhood.</p>
<p>We are in total support of the new Cloverley School. We live directly across the street and are excited for the improvement this will bring to the neighbourhood. There is always concern about traffic, but that's a metro and greater regional issue. We look forward to welcoming this school. Great work!</p>
<p>1) I am pleased the vehicular access/egress has been moved off Kennard. 2) I am sorry the present community amenities have been lost largely because of SD44/BC govt cost concerns. I personally have not used the park in recent years but I know it is well used by children and families. 3) I welcome back an elementary school to the neighbourhood after over 40 years. SD44 must now be pleased that community action many years ago blocked the sale of the property for housing!</p>
<p>What will you do about the long standing traffic issues for the neighbourhood people speeding down alleys specifically the last alley with no speed bumps at Adderley. Its super dangerous because there are no speed bumps Google sends people down there at 50-60 km/hr and it shows on google as a road when cars drive that fast.</p>
<p>Please prioritize Green procurement of local building products, nature based features for playgrounds, and Green Roof systems. Also - DECONSTRUCT RESOURCES FROM STRUCTURE PLEASE DON'T WASTE RESOURCES!</p>
<p>Very excited about this project! We live in the area with 2 young children and are looking forward to finding out the catchment area (right now we are in the Ridgeway catchment)</p>
<p>Why does it always take the community to show up in numbers before changes are made. We are not getting answers on how expensive it will be to leave the new school site where the old school sits. We are losing a beautiful park to a gravel area. Wouldn't it be better to situate the building away from our beautiful green area?</p>
<p>I am concerned that there is no agreement - written between parks and school board and therefore there is no guarantees that there will be adequate park and tennis courts to replace what now exist. We want transparency - School Board/Parks</p>
<p>Main concerns: continued access to greenspace and play areas while school is in session. We use the park and playground extensively while caring for our grandchildren. It's the only green space close to our neighbourhood. Please no parking for teachers. Go green! There is ample access via transit - #228 stop at Queensbury and 4th; - Bus stop at Keith and Cloverley; - Park and walk from Heywood (only 1 side has parking); - Park and walk from Kennard (near Rona). This will allow more green space, reduce traffic, support reduced car use and fitness</p>

Comment Received

My biggest concern is for the safety of students and staff. I think the traffic study needs to be more complete and have more data collection as 3 days of data collection will not give you a true picture of the traffic constantly cutting through the neighbourhood. I would like to see the west side remain as a green space and retain as many of the trees as possible

No parking lot. More green space. Park and walk. Park on Heywood. Park near Rona and walk up Kennard Green way. Take transport - several bus options. Keep the maple trees on the South east - I have heard they are being taken out. Bring stream to the surface. This project has been badly mishandled. I still believe the school should be build on the west. Please put trees along Kennard in front of childcare centre. Sidewalk should be on west side of Kennard only for safety of pedestrians.

City expressed interest in supporting change to building on west side of property. I would like more information about what was offered/discussed. I would like to see the recent geotechnical and traffic studies. I would like to see the project invite community input to listen to local knowledge. Higher, smaller footprint would allow more greenspace to remain and could take advantage of natural slopes. Keep kids away from Keith and Cloverley - keep catchment south of Keith Road (it is very dangerous). Should compensate for loss of park with other green space (comm. mental health). Staff parking lot smaller than predicted staff cars - where will they park? Why is secure bike parking 1/3 of city of NV bylaw? Seems an easy win to comply.

Why won't they tell us how much more expensive it would be to leave the school site on the western end!!! Why destroy an existing green space. We have paid school taxes for 33 years in North Vancouver. No one is listening to the long suffering residents of this area. We are the people who will have to put up with all of cement trucks and other heavy vehicles for the next few years.

Hello, I live at [REDACTED] - very close to the existing school. I am most concerned about rodent control during demolition. Over the years (I have owned the house for 15 years), there have been rats and mice on the school property. I'm concerned with them being disrupted during demo - I hope you can address with preventative measures.

Need more high quality secure bike parking for staff. Need to keep cars as far from the school as possible for kids safety.

No parking restrictions for owners. Cloverley and Kennard Intersection is dangerous to make right hand turn. Kennard is better for drop off and pick up.

Please keep our park!!! The timeline presented does not capture when the decision was made with zero community input on the location of the school on the site. The "working together" elements are the school board only - no community. I still do not understand why the school and field are not flipped. Keeping the school on the east side would reduce all the traffic issues presented including the need for traffic light at Cloverley and what will likely be one way streets. Please make young kids play areas (1-3, 3-5) accessible to public. Please create community greenspace on the west side of lot and this would alleviate many community concerns. Much more attractive without drop off lane.

Comment Received

I would be interested to know the cost difference as well as the time difference between having the school site on the East or West side of the property. I also would like to see the District and the City come together to show a traffic management plan for the entire area. How will families pick up their kids on busy traffic days?

Appreciate that the concerns about the parking lot have been heard. My main concerns/requests are: 1) if there is any way to save the park it would mean so much to the community. 2) Traffic needs significantly more work. The two streets proposed for DO/PU only fit 3 cars across so cannot accommodate drop off lane, parking on one side, two way traffic. Parking is needed on at least one side so either an additional drop off lane, or one way streets. One last piece; it would be fantastic to see community greenspace on the west side to replace the lost park.

A new school is needed, especially with the Ridgeway annex closure and new construction (many apartments/townhouses being built in/around the neighbourhood and portables created in the local school yards. However, there is no way that the existing Cloverley Park play area and tennis courts should be removed to accommodate the new school. The existing footprint should be used and the school could be built multiple-storied if the space is not sufficient. Furthermore, we are taxpayers (paying property and school tax) and our concerns ought to have been properly addressed prior to making the decision on site placement of the new school. The conversation has been filled with the new building's "green-ness" while removing park space that is well used by children, people and their dogs, seniors, and those who play tennis at the tennis courts. Removing park space like this is not right! or appreciated by the community.

Major lack of public consultation of taxpayers. Significant need to keep unstructured green space for kids to play in/discover nature - playing field is not the same thing. As the population grows, we need more parks, not less. Why NOT have the school more stories to have less land covered with structures and asphalt, keep play space and partial wilderness for kids and animals. You're telling us how green the building is, while removing green (non-playing field) space. Children need green space to play in...with trees, shrubs, bugs, rocks, etc.

Re: Mobility Board. SB seems to be indicating a SPECIFIC route from the west for getting to drop off and p/u points. This is NOT ok - it coincides with the shortcutting congestion route (preferred) during rush hour NOW. Please read the Cloverley traffic calming reports commissioned at the direction of the Mayor. The 2021 report by city staffer A Devlin detailing the failed attempt to deal with shortcutting and congestion many days or month currently the congestion issue/safety concerns remain. School PU/DO will worsen matters. My compliments to STUART, Staff Rep, who was both informed and respectful.

Thank you so much for expanding the educational capacity of N. Vancouver. I live at [REDACTED] and we currently have traffic issues. Literally in most of the day, the street is blocked after 15:30 to 16:00. The highway traffic overflows to local streets and residents' access to other regions gets blocked. The traffic issue is a closed system and regardless of how that is re-routed to other streets, the issue stay unresolved. Honestly I am not sure how the City can resolve the issue. This wasn't mitigated without the school, so how can it be resolved WITH the school present. Another concern is the loss of green space. With new complexes on the 3rd St. and the neighbourhood getting denser, there is a need to more greenspace while we are losnig a valuable one. Thank you!

Comment Received

I want to be able to get home and out of my house without being blocked by construction. Also roads will be very blocked after school especially Keith Road (already being a very busy road)

I feel it is INAPPROPRIATE to wipe out such a nice well used park! The Province is burning up! We need MORE PARK and GREEN SPACE not less. Put the school on west side of par and keep park space. Maybe make the school higher and take up less of a footprint.

We are looking forward to a new school BUT 1) We are NOT in agreement with the design as proposed and loss of the park 2) The sewer/water/hydro come to the west end and not the park. 3) There is not plan to abate rat runners use of local lanes and the rat runners will substantially increase!!! I do not believe that there are geotechnical issues that favour one end of the site from the other. 4) The school design should use existing location with more of the gravel rot used. The site was used on an interim basis when Ridgeway was undergoing seismic upgrading. 5) The existing site has a much more acceptable access from shaving ton through what would be created with a park based site. 6) We have waited years for new school only to find n overly cost focussed approach rules the design = poor strategic planning by the Province and NVSD

What if any are the recommendations for pm traffic concerns along Shavington? Traffic can begin backing up after 2:30pm and remain congested well into the evening. How would parents/staff get out of the area if driving? How would traffic be stopped from "cutting" through the lane way between Cloverley and Shavington?

Extreme lack of community input on existing designs. Extreme impact on park of existing design options. Lack of consideration of options to preserve park space. Non transparent sharing of information (technical reports). Poor communication online during consultation process. Need to preserve park area, develop new design options, Make school 3 stories, u/g parking.

I live on [REDACTED] Just wondering how traffic calming will be implemented. I hope traffic will not go up and down lanes between Cloverley and Queensbury ie lane between E4th St and E 5th St. Will there be any parkland retained or will it be for school use? I also realise there's a need for this school with all the housing/apts being build near this new school

Comment Received

I attended last night's information meeting regarding the new Cloverley School and was told to submit further comments to this address.

1. First, I would like to say that after living in the area for over 30 years, it is my belief that the major issues regarding this school location are the ongoing safety concerns with regards to traffic.

The City of North Vancouver's failure to address traffic and safety improvements since 2019 has led to drivers becoming habituated to shortcutting through the Cloverley area, which has reached epidemic proportions. Despite numerous requests to the City, they have yet to begin engagement with the community in planning for this new school. The Lower Lynn Interchange project has clearly failed to deliver as advertised and has exacerbated traffic volume, in particular, directly adjacent to the school property.

The traffic study that was presented last night was supposed to be 'comprehensive' but clearly wasn't. The consultants did not seem to be aware of the data etc. from the last 6 years from the failed 'traffic calming' measures implemented by the City. Observing traffic for three days, as we were told, will hardly give a true picture of the severity of the situation in this area. As recently as Friday January 26, traffic was at a standstill from Keith Rd to Hendry and beyond on both Shavington and Cloverley. Illegal driving in lanes to access Keith Rd. Is a daily occurrence. The RCMP are well aware of this issue. We have witnessed numerous occasions of complete gridlock which would clearly impede any access of Emergency vehicles to the new school and surrounding area.

All of the reports, data, and residents input are available from the City or residents. This will guide future safety improvements. Poorly implemented measures by the City which were not equitable led to a lack of consensus within the community. With the new school coming, residents are going to have to be convinced that safety is the paramount priority over convenience.

No effort to my knowledge was made by the traffic consultants to engage with residents who have a wealth of information regarding traffic patterns and major safety obstacles. This is disappointing. Clearly work has to be done in consultation with the City and the neighbourhood prior to construction to start to understand the complexity of the situation and to develop a traffic management plan. Perhaps a focus group could be formed to begin to formulate ideas moving forward.

2. It is truly disappointing to lose Cloverley Park which has been there for over 40 years. I would ask the School Board to retain as much green space as possible on both sides of the property. The community is well served with tennis courts, bike and skate parks in other areas of the City but retaining green space should be paramount. It will be well used by both the students and residents. The mature Big Leaf Maples at the west end are an endemic species and should be protected. They would also serve to provide an educational component for the classrooms. I would also ask the School Board to commit in writing that no portion of the west side of the property will be sold off or rezoned for development.

Continued below:

Above comment continued: 3. It is interesting to note that nobody I spoke to at the meeting last night was aware that on the south side of the property bordering Shavington St. is an area designated as an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA). This is on the CNV OCP website, and in fact, was on the School Board's plan from 2014 when the Board was contemplating selling off the property. This might indicate that an environmental study might have to take place as this is where the new driveway is proposed.

Comment Received

I would hope these comments are useful and look forward to being involved in any way possible to make this school a success. Hopefully the School Board and the City will reach out to residents in order to achieve this.

I attended the Cloverley School Information Meeting last night and was told that we could send comments to this email.

1. I wonder if you are aware of the Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that exist on the site. You can find reference to it in the School District Open House #2 Public Input Summary of April 16, 2014 when the School District was contemplating selling the land. The concept drawings show an ESA area off of Shavington Ave. The City of North Vancouver OCP also has a map that shows where the ESA I have attached photos from these documents.
2. The landscape design board had a note to the side regarding the potential uses for the passive grass area. I would recommend to leave it as a passive grass area and not fill it with tennis, pickle ball, skateboarding etc... there are enough other areas in the City to do these activities and given the fact that we have just lost the park on the East side which is a open grassy area I would like to see it retained as such. The maples on this part of the property provide many benefits and should not be touched to put in more asphalted areas.
3. The traffic boards were extremely disappointing. The traffic study area board did not have any data regarding the volume and speed of vehicles at the study intersection. How can all these intersections be studied over a 3 day period which is what was mentioned. There are no dates and times to show when the data was collected. It did not seem that Bunt & Associate were aware of the history and traffic issues in this area. There needs to be a very comprehensive study done. Residents who live with this traffic every day need to be involved in this process.
4. There was no mention of a traffic management plan during construction. Who is in charge of this?

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED] and i am [REDACTED].

I was unable to make the meeting, but want to voice my full support for the new school as currently proposed in the "preferred plan" shown in the display boards (east side of the site). Although I recognize losing the current park is not ideal, I have read the pros/cons of locating the school on the east side and agree it is the best solution due to limitations with soils and slope.

I have a son who will be attending the new school, and would like to see the school built as soon as possible without delay or redesign.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]