

**Subject:**  
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**To:** <fonvca@fonvca.org>  
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A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST;

During a recent District Council debate on a multifamily rezoning and development variance application in the Lynn Valley Core, I spoke in opposition to the application. I reminded Council that the developments in the area were contrary to the Pedestrian Oriented Town Center concept which had been promised to the public.

What was delivered was not a Pedestrian Town Center but more of what they had already, more cars, more noise, more pollution and more parking problems - the exact opposite of what was shown on the glossy brochures when the plan was pushed as pedestrian oriented. Therefore, I said the PLAN was a hoax.


Councillor Walton, who I understand has Mayoralty ambitions and has obvious difficulties differentiating between a car mall and a pedestrian mall, demanded that I retract the word hoax. Janice Harris, who is quite inexperienced in her job as Mayor, immediately joined in and also demanded that I retract the word "hoax" or leave the Council Chamber - I left.

The Oxford Dictionary, which I am certain is an unfamiliar publication to both Janice Harris and Councillor Walton, defines a hoax as a joke with overtones of deception by inferring that something which has been done or has been said was not to be taken seriously and is, in fact, a "hoax". Comparing the recent development in the Lynn Valley core with a pedestrian oriented Town Center is precisely such a "hoax". It would be the same as calling a donkey an Arabian race horse.

If there is a lesson in this then it is that neither Richard Walton nor Janice Harris, both of whom have Mayoralty ambitions, are fit to be members of a democratic assembly and neither, for that matter, are Alan Nixon, or Lisa Muri. They too voted, that I leave for using the word "hoax". They confirmed that they are at best fit to be candidates for a preliminary school on the principles of democracy. As for the Pedestrian Oriented Town Center versus Regional Car Mall issue, I leave it up to the residents of Lynn Valley, fighting the growing line-ups to and from the Lynn Valley Core to decide which is which.

Ernie Crist

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