

Westgate Town Hall Meeting Summary
November 20th, 2008
7:30PM, Basement Lounge

- **Westgate Smoking Policy**
 - o Description: Residents on the first few floors of the high rise have complained about cigarette smoke drifting up into their apartments. This has led us to revisit Westgate's smoking policy. The policy currently is as follows: (1) No smoking inside any of the Westgate buildings, both public and private spaces, (2) no smoking on low-rise balconies, (3) no smoking within the courtyard and playground, and (4) no smoking within fifteen feet of low-rise buildings. We would like to remind everyone of these current standards and also propose to **extend this policy so that smoking is not allowed within 15 feet of the high-rise building.**
 - o Gather resident input: None of the attending residents had any problems and all present seemed to support this policy extension.

- **Stroller covered shelters (Pods)** – in the process of ordering, they will be here soon
 - o Stroller pods will be put in soon. Jason reviewed the placements. They will have locks on them and the code will be distributed to residents.

- **Rats extermination details:**
 - o The company MIT uses also gives services to other colleges and universities in the area.
 - o The powder they are using is considered safe.
 - o If you see a live rat you can contact Michael Collins and let him know

- **PBC update (PCB project representative: Richard)**
 - o Still work to do, nothing noisy. Next phase is soil excavation from courtyard and around buildings.
 - o Representative showed a map of where the soil that has to be removed is located. After removal, more samples will be taken. They are going down one foot deep. Once this test passes, it will be refilled with soil, and new vegetation will be planted for next spring where existing vegetation is removed.
 - o Expected time of work on the inside courtyard is 5 days, but representative feels it might take more (7-10 days). Complex operation, many machines.
 - o Proposing to put a temporary fence across the playground and lock of about half of it at a time.
 - o Then move to the outside areas. Estimate is 5 days, practically will probably take 7-10 days). Will be easier technically, but the crews will need to take over some parking spaces.
 - o Suggestion was made to change a part of the safety fence. Representative will try to make it happen.
 - o Resident – asked to have some sign that the construction people will put next to residences to notify which entrances they are about to close. Rep: sounds good. Jason Jason Mac – will supply printed messages to be posted.
 - o Residents asked for missing cinder-blocks that held the noisy separator doors between balconies.
 - Richard or Jason will look to solve this solution
 - New blocks or fix the doors.

- **Dishwashers** -Continuing the discussion about Dishwashers:
 - o Jason Mac: Its not about the plumbing, it's the dishwasher. Even the presumably "safe" dishwashers can cause problems when hooked to the kitchen sink.
 - o Resident: could it be possible to put a one-way valve on the faucet.
 - o Jason: Michael Collins is willing to explore possibilities. There is ongoing work with Kevin (PRC) and Michael.

- **Vassar St. Project**
 - o Ramps next to Westgate will be operational and unblocked before the project team wraps up for the winter.