

Internal Notetaking Template for Stakeholder Public Engagement Period



Stakeholder Group Name: Monica Zazueta

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Format (Virtual/In-person): Virtual

[00:48:13] Monica Zazueta: Hello, everyone. Hi. Thank you. Thank you so much for letting me speak. I'm actually feeding my little two-month-old baby right now. His name's Rufio. I don't know if you all saw *Hook*, the movie, back in the day with Robin Williams. Anyway, I'm here to speak today because I believe Vancouver should be on the overburdened communities list.

Me and my family are now homeless, but we were just living in the tiny home community over on Fruit Valley. We were right there by the railroads. You'd step out the front door, and you saw the rail trains passing. There were houses built for the homeless community. I thought it was great to get into a home, and it was a tiny home like, "This is amazing." Because I'm a part of 12 different environmental and social justice groups, I was like, "This is exactly what we needed."

Then I realized it was so close to the train tracks that I was like, "Well, this sucks [chuckles] because of the noise, the pollution, just not safe, the derailing maybe, possibly." It just didn't feel safe. I felt just because we were homeless, we didn't deserve that I was very appreciative of the housing, but it just seemed like we were just being pushed to where they could afford it or whatever.

I felt like we really didn't matter, but they were trying to seem like we did matter. Now we're homeless due to some circumstances. I just know that my babies-- I have an eight-year-old and a two-month-old and I just know that I can't leave them on a dying planet. I need them to have fresh air. I need them to have clean water, and I need them to be okay when I'm gone. If you could do anything and everything really in your power because you hold the power.

If you can really help me and not worry so much, that would be amazing. I do everything for them and anything because I love them. I know there are people and families that moms love their kids. I want to speak for them, and I just hope you all hear our concerns. I thank you all for everything that you do. Yes, you all have a great night.

[silence]

