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Cal reviving Metrotown rezoning application; [5 * Edition]

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Abstract (Summary)

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Full Text (282 words)

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Sun Business Reporter

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The rezoning application is for a proposed expansion to the Metrotown Centre Mall, which the company developed in 1986; it features The Bay, smaller retail spaces, and office and residential towers.

"The delays have certainly cost us in excess of \$1 million. We're hoping for prudent judgment from council," said Cal Investments president Jim Forsythe.

A phased development was approved as a package when the company developed the existing Metrotown Centre Mall - an expansion of three office towers and three residential towers was approved, in keeping with council's desires for a mixed development.

But the earlier Cal Investments rezoning application included The Bay, about 100 smaller shops, three office towers, and only one residential tower.

Ald. Lee Rankin, who vehemently opposed the original earlier application, has seen the new rezoning plans. He says: "To be quite honest, the new plans show promise. They've cut down on the retail, increased the residential, and taken the parking underground."

But Mayor Bill Lewarne expressed concerns about the retail expansion.

"We're concerned about over-building - right now there's a half a billion dollars worth of construction going on in the Metrotown core area."

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