

MOTION

5. Engaged City Task Force

Vancouver City Council, at its meeting on October 2, 2012, referred this matter to the Standing committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on October 3, 2012, in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Councillor Andrea Reimer
SECONDED by Mayor Gregor Robertson

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver City Council has a strong and demonstrated commitment to bringing the community into City Hall by engaging citizens, and soliciting their ideas, input and creative energy;
2. It is desirable to have the highest level of resident engagement, matching the demographics of the city as closely as possible, in City processes and resource allocation;
3. Recent research by the Vancouver Foundation found a strong correlation between low neighbor to neighbor engagement and low engagement with government;
4. The Vancouver Foundation research further shows social isolation was the single largest concern for residents in the Metro Vancouver region;
5. The Community Summit that took place from September 18-23, 2012, generated a number of ideas for action on increasing engagement, both with neighbours and with government;
6. The City has been a recognized leader in Open Data initiatives and is thus well-poised to expand these efforts to better engage citizens online and through social media.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council establish an Engaged City Task Force as a Type D advisory committee with the terms of reference attached in Appendix A entitled "Mayor's Engaged City Task Force"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Councillor Andrea Reimer be appointed to the Task Force.

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Timeline	Start December, Final Report by June 2013
Composition	<p>The Mayor's Engaged City Task Force will be composed of Mayor Gregor Robertson, one Councillor and sixteen (16) individuals with broad experience, expertise, and interest in community engagement.</p> <p>In light of the Vancouver Foundation research on belonging and inclusion, particular attention will be paid to recruiting individuals with expertise and experience with engaging individuals 25-34 years of age. In addition, the task force will seek to recruit individuals with experience and expertise in effective use of social media for community engagement.</p> <p>The task force will be supported by staff from the Mayor's office, City Manager's office and corporate communications.</p>
Appointment Process	Members will be appointed using an open call nomination process.
Scope of Inquiry	<p>Making Vancouver a more engaged city will require progress on the following priority issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. neighbour to neighbour engagement 2. increased literacy of, and opportunities for engaging in, City processes and resource allocations 3. enhancing how the city engages with citizens, and vice versa
Outputs	The Mayor's Engaged City Task Force will issue a final report on what's working, what needs improvement and what's missing