

B.6

MOTION ON NOTICE

6. Request of the Province: Benchmarking Tools for Building Energy Use

MOVER: Councillor Louie

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. As study by the United States Environmental Protection Agency has shown that energy benchmarking has resulted in an average 7% reduction in energy use of participating buildings over a period of 3 years;
2. On September 24, 2013 Vancouver City Council endorsed: *F. THAT as part of a comprehensive strategy on building retrofit to enable reaching Greenest City GHG goals, Council direct City staff to develop recommendations for Council consideration on energy reporting requirements for larger existing buildings in the City of Vancouver.;*
3. Energy benchmarking is a low cost practice that enables building owners to identify savings opportunities;
4. Nine municipalities in the US require energy benchmarking for larger buildings (typically 50,000 square feet or larger);
5. Energy benchmarking software called ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager is available for free through Natural Resources Canada and is the same platform being used by all 9 municipalities in the US that are currently regulating energy benchmarking;
6. Energy benchmarking identifies the highest energy consuming buildings to target building energy performance support and inform public policy and program design;
7. Energy benchmarking enables evaluation of the effectiveness of municipal strategies to reduce energy use in existing buildings (measure progress over time) that are developed in response to the *Local Government Act section 877(3): An official community plan must include targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the area covered by the plan, and policies and actions of the local government proposed with respect to achieving those targets.*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT City Council request provincial amendments to the Vancouver Charter, Local Government Act and the Community Charter in order to empower local governments to require annual reporting of building energy use data to be submitted by building owners or designate, that

enables normalized comparison benchmarking between similar buildings (area, use, type of equipment, etc.).

- B. THAT City Council request additional amendments to grant local governments the authority to enable the public release of non-confidential and non-competitive building energy benchmarking information via a municipal website or that of a delegated organization, two years following the submission of reporting data by building owners to local governments and following an accuracy review by owners.
- C. THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association Annual General Meeting and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Annual Convention for consideration and adoption.

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