MOTION ON NOTICE

At the Regular Council meeting on March 28, 2017, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on March 29, 2017, to hear from speakers.

The following motion contains changes to the original motion on notice.

7. Finding an Appropriate City Location for Vancouver's 2017 4/20 Event

MOVED by Councillor Carr SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

WHEREAS

- 1. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects the fundamental rights of Canadians including freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, which requires the City of Vancouver to accommodate non-violent public protests such as the 4/20 event;
- Timed for April 20 to coincide with similar events around the world,
 Vancouver's 4/20 event has been held annually since 1995 as a day-long public protest and rally calling for the legalization of cannabis;
- 3. The 4/20 event is the largest annual public protest event in Vancouver, with over 10,000 people from Vancouver and the surrounding region attending;
- 4. Vancouver's 4/20 event has historically been held at the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG) but in 2016, due to the redevelopment of the VAG front lawns, was relocated to Sunset Beach Park:
- 5. The Vancouver Park Board decided on March 6, 2017, to deny a permit to the 4/20 event for Sunset Beach Park primarily because smoking is banned on all park lands in the city;
- 6. Vancouver's 4/20 event organizers are currently planning to hold their event at Sunset Beach Park in 2017 despite not being granted a permit, because another location has not been made available by the City of Vancouver;
- 7. Many residents of the West End have expressed their opposition to the 4/20 event at Sunset Beach due to the smoking and impact on air quality, noise, trash, and negative impacts on sensitive grassy park lands.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to consult with the 4/20 event organizers and the public to identify an appropriate non-residential-neighbourhood City site where Vancouver's 4/20 event could be held in future years.

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