



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

JUNE 28, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities was held on Wednesday, June 28, 2017, at 9:36 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Andrea Reimer, Chair
Councillor George Affleck (Leave of Absence - Personal -
Items 1, 3, 4, and 5)
Councillor Elizabeth Ball, Vice-Chair
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Melissa De Genova
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang*
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Geoff Meggs
Councillor Tim Stevenson

ABSENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk
Katrina Leckovic, Deputy City Clerk
Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

Councillor Reimer, Chair, acknowledged that we are on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh First Nations.

MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT items 3, 4 and 5 be adopted on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**1. Independent Election Task Force Report - Report Back
May 26, 2017**

The City Clerk and Chief Election Officer, along with the Director of Business and Election Services / Deputy Chief Election Officer, responded to questions.

The Committee agreed to separate the vote on the components of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Reimer

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council endorse the staff recommendations for increasing Voter Turn Out and Engagement, as set out in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated May 26, 2017, entitled "Independent Election Task Force Report - Report Back";

FURTHER THAT staff use geographic equity as a key factor in accessing where to locate advance voting stations.

CARRIED (Vote No. 02077)

(Councillor Ball and De Genova opposed)

- B. THAT staff advance the recommendation of the Engaged City Task Force, as set out in the "Independent Election Task Force Final Report", dated January 2017, which has been endorsed by Council at the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on January 24, 2017, (see [the IETF Final Report](#)), supported by the Mayors Working Group on Immigration and Refugees, and part of the active workplan of the City's Cultural Communities Advisory Committee and the Vancouver Foundation - to investigate the pros and cons and options for allowing permanent residents to vote in municipal elections and report back to Council on their findings prior to December 2017.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02078)

- C. THAT Council

- (i) Reaffirm our long-standing support to the new Provincial government for changes in provincial legislation to allow for:
- Municipal campaign finance reform (see Appendix A as set out below);
 - Proportional representation;
 - Release of anonymized ballot data to researchers; and
 - Online voting;

(APPENDIX A - from minutes of the March 25, 2010, Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting
<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20100325/documents/penv20100325min.pdf>)

1. Set limits on the annual amount of contributions that can be given by an individual to an elector organization, campaign organizer, or an individual seeking elected office.
2. Ban union and corporate donations.
3. Limit the amount of money that may be spent annually by an elector organization, campaign organizer, or an individual seeking elected office during a general local election campaign.
4. These limits on contributions and expenditures would be based upon a per-electoral/capita, per-candidate formula (with individual candidate resources allowed to be pooled for use by elector organizations) and would be no higher than provincial and federal spending limits.
5. Disallow contributions to an elector organization, campaign organizer, or an individual seeking elected office, from sources outside of Canada.
6. Require that all donations and expenses for candidates, elected officials and elector organizations be disclosed on a continuous basis at six month intervals.
8. Change the definition of "candidate" to include anyone seeking nomination within an elector organization for candidacy to a local government office.
9. Appoint the Provincial Chief Election Officer to oversee municipal elections in BC, and establish penalties and mechanisms for enforcement of offences under the amended local government elections legislation.
12. Provide local governments with the authority to use any method of elections they wish to use, and repeal the requirement for Lieutenant Governor in Council approval to adopt such a change.
13. Amend the definition of election offenses and related penalties to include individuals acting as an intermediary in third-party campaign contribution schemes.

NOTE: Items 7, 10 and 11 were removed as they do not directly relate to increasing municipal authority for campaign or electoral reform and

were specific to questions posed by the Local Government Elections Task Force. They are provided below for reference.

7. Implement a system of tax credits for municipal donations, similar to those for provincial and federal elections.
 10. Extend municipal terms of office to four years.
 11. Oppose allowing corporations the right to vote in local elections.
- (ii) Forward the recommendations from the Independent Election Task Force to the Province to establish an independent technical committee, as recommended by the Independent Panel on Internet Voting; and
 - (iii) Recommends if the Province doesn't pass legislation to enable municipal campaign finance reform in Vancouver prior to January 1, 2018, that Vancouver hold a plebiscite concurrently with the 2018 municipal election on whether or not voters support the Provincial government enabling municipal campaign finance reform.

CARRIED (Vote No. 02079)
(Councillor Ball and De Genova opposed)

**2. Sign By-law Review: New Sign By-law and Sign Fee By-law
June 15, 2017**

The Acting Assistant Director, City-Wide and Regional Planning, responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Carr
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be instructed to make an application to Council and bring forward:
 - (i) a new Sign By-law; and
 - (ii) a new Sign Fee By-law;

FURTHER THAT the application be referred to a Public Hearing; and

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-laws, generally in accordance with Appendices A and B, of the Policy Report dated June 15, 2017, entitled "Sign By-law Review: New Sign By-law and Sign Fee By-law", for consideration at Public Hearing.

- B. THAT subject to enactment of the new Sign By-law and Sign Fee By-law, Sign By-law No. 6510 be repealed.

- C. THAT Council direct the Director of Legal Services to request that the Province expand Council's authority to relax the Sign By-law regulations under Section 571AA of the *Vancouver Charter* to allow for flexibility for staff to consider creative and unique signs.
- D. THAT subject to enactment of the new Sign By-law and Sign Fee By-law, in January 2018, Council direct staff to undertake an education and enforcement campaign as proposed in the Policy Report dated June 15, 2017, entitled "Sign By-law Review: New Sign By-law and Sign Fee By-law".
- E. THAT Council endorse proceeding with Phase II of the Sign By-law review to address billboards, third party advertising and corporate sponsorship on private property, in coordination with other City and Park Board initiatives for advertising and sponsorship in the public realm, including on city streets and within city parks.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02080)
(Councillor Jang absent for vote)

**3. Contract Award for Construction Services for the Knight and Marine Intersection Improvements
May 28, 2017**

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve an increase to the multi-year capital project budget for Knight and Marine Intersection Improvements from \$3,500,000 to \$5,200,000; source of funding for the increase to be reallocation from the multi-year capital project budget for the 2017 Active Transportation Corridors and Spot Improvements program. Expenditures will be managed within the overall approved Annual Capital Expenditure Budget for Engineering Services.
- B. THAT, subject to approval of A above, Council authorize City staff to enter into a contract with Lafarge Canada Inc., for Construction Services for the Knight and Marine Intersection Improvements, for a term of approximately four (4) months, with an estimated contract value of \$3,185,581.00, plus applicable taxes over the approximate four (4) month term;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services, Chief Purchasing Official and General Manager of the Engineering Services be authorized to execute on behalf of the City the contract contemplated above.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of B above unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in the above.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 02086)

**4. Acquisition of Social Housing at 1345 Davie Street
May 30, 2017**

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council authorize the Director of Real Estate Services and the Director of Legal Services to negotiate and execute all documents which they consider appropriate in connection with the acquisition for a nominal purchase price, from the owner/developer of a multiple dwelling building at 1345 Davie Street (Marcon Davie Properties Ltd.), of an air space parcel (the "Social Housing Air Space Parcel") whereby:

- i. the Social Housing Air Space Parcel will contain a minimum of 4,298 m² (46,263 sq.ft.) of residential floor area and no fewer than 68 units of Social Housing and associated storage lockers, parking and bike storage;
- ii. the City of Vancouver (the "City"), as owner of the Social Housing Air Space Parcel, will be granted the appropriate rights and be subject to the appropriate obligations applicable to the ownership and operation of the Social Housing Air Space Parcel, including reciprocal easements and indemnities, repair and maintenance, cost sharing, insurance and other applicable legal obligations; and
- iii. the construction and transfer to the City of the Social Housing Air Space Parcel will be secured in a Construction and Transfer Agreement to be registered against title to the lands (Lot 14 Block 37 District Lot 185 Plan 92) (the "Lands") in accordance with DP-2016-00373 as conditionally approved by the Development Permit Board on March 20, 2017, pursuant to the RM-5D District Schedule.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 02087)

**5. 955 East Hastings Street - Social Housing Operator Selection and Lease Terms
June 20, 2017**

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve Lookout Emergency Aid Society ("Lookout") as the selected non-profit partner to operate the 70 unit social housing Air Space Parcel ("ASP") to be created from the parent parcel located at 955 East Hastings Street legally described as PID: 029-260-558, Lot 1 Block 62 District Lot 181 Group 1 New Westminster District Plan EPP26162.
- B. THAT Council authorize the General Manager of Real Estate and Facilities Management to negotiate and execute a lease (the "Lease") for the ASP located at 955 East Hastings Street on terms and conditions outlined in the Administrative Report dated June 20, 2017, entitled "955 East Hastings Street - Social Housing Operator Selection and Lease Terms", including:

- A term of 60 years;
- A lease payment of \$3.8 million, subject to confirmation of financing, to be paid to the City by the end of the first year of operation;
- At least one-third of social housing units must be rented at shelter component of Income Assistance for low-income households who are eligible for Income Assistance or a combination of Old Age Pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement. Of the remaining social housing units, at least one-third are to be at rents affordable to people who earn up to "Housing Income Limits" or HILs, and the remaining units to be at affordable market rents ("Low End of Market" rents);
- Adherence to the Operating Agreement and Service Level Agreement;
- All revenues generated from the project to be reinvested to: (i) fund the Operating Reserve, and/or (ii) augment the Capital Replacement Reserve, and/or (iii) maintain and enhance housing affordability throughout the life of the project, and/or (iv) create or acquire new affordable housing within the City of Vancouver, and/or (v) fund payment of identified capital maintenance or replacement costs;
- The operator to provide insurance required by the City of Vancouver; and
- A requirement to pay a proportionate share (to be negotiated and defined within the Reciprocal Easement and Indemnity Agreement) of maintenance and replacement costs for common aspects of the development.

C. THAT no legal rights or obligations shall arise or be created by the adoption of A and B above unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by respective parties.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND B
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 02089)

6. Amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law June 20, 2017

The General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, Housing Policy staff, and the Director of Financial Services, presented on this matter and, along with and the General Manager of Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from two speakers in support of the recommendations and five speakers who were either in opposition or expressed concerns regarding specific aspects of the recommendations.

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At 11:58 am, it was

MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT the meeting be extended to complete the business on the agenda.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

The Committee recessed at 11:59 am and reconvened at 1:39 pm.

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MOVED by Councillor Meggs
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law No. 11674 as described in the Administrative Report dated June 20, 2017, entitled "Amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law", and instruct the Director of Legal Services to bring forward a by-law to amend Vacancy Tax By-Law No. 11674 generally as set out in Appendix A of the above-noted report for enactment.
- B. THAT Council receive for information additional data on the number of homes that may be impacted by the Vacancy Tax By-Law and the Empty Homes Tax (EHT) as described in the Administrative Report dated June 20, 2017, entitled "Amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law".

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT the following be added as C at the end:

- C. THAT Council direct staff to add an exemption to the Vacancy Tax By-law for second homes that are occupied on a monthly basis or a minimum of 180 days per year by owners for their own family purposes.

LOST (Vote No. 02081)
(Councillors Deal, Jang, Louie, Meggs, Reimer and Stevenson opposed)

The Committee agreed to separate the vote on components of the motion.

FINAL MOTION AS ADOPTED

- A. THAT Council approve the amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law No. 11674 as described in the Administrative Report dated June 20, 2017, entitled "Amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law", and instruct the Director of Legal Services to bring forward a by-law to amend Vacancy Tax By-Law No. 11674 generally as set out in Appendix A of the above-noted report for enactment.

CARRIED (Vote No. 02082)
(Councillors Affleck, Ball and De Genova opposed)

- B. THAT Council receive for information additional data on the number of homes that may be impacted by the Vacancy Tax By-Law and the Empty Homes Tax (EHT) as described in the Administrative Report dated June 20, 2017, entitled "Amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02083)

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The Committee recessed at 3:19 pm and reconvened at 3:26 pm.

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7. Support for Chinese Cultural Centre Seniors Space

At the Regular Council meeting on June 27, 2017, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on June 28, 2017, to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from one speaker who was in support of the motion.

MOVED by Acting Mayor Louie

WHEREAS

1. Many Chinese seniors associations have requested dedicated seniors cultural activity space;
2. The membership of these Chinese seniors associations number in the thousands;
3. The issue of access to affordable and sufficient space is a major concern for the Chinese seniors;

4. The recent attempt to secure Chinese seniors cultural space within the proposed 105 Keefer development failed due to the rejection of the development proposal by City Council.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to explore all options to secure sufficient and affordable space for these groups of Chinese senior associations, including the use of financial subsidy or the securing of space through another development proposal;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT City staff report back on viable options by the last Council meeting in October 2017.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02084)

8. Banning Pet Sales from Retail Outlets

At the Regular Council meeting on June 27, 2017, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on June 28, 2017, to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from six speakers who were in support of the motion.

The following contains amendments to the original motion which were accepted by the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Deal

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver currently has License By-law No. 4450 that allows for the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits from commercial breeding facilities;
2. It has been shown that commercial breeding facilities can raise animals in horrible conditions resulting in neglect, abuse and suffering;
3. As a result of the inhumane conditions these animals are produced in, they often suffer from disease, and other physical, emotional and behaviour problems;
4. The City of Richmond has passed by-laws restricting the sale of dogs (2010) and rabbits (2009), the City of New Westminster has passed a by-law restricting the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits (2012) within their municipalities;
5. Other municipalities across Canada have passed by-laws restricting the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits;

6. Many members of the public have contacted Vancouver City Council expressing concern over the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits within the city and request that the City of Vancouver take action;
7. Potential pet owners still have the option of obtaining a cat, dog or rabbit directly through reputable breeders and through recognized animal rescue and shelter organizations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- A. Staff put forward amendments to the License By-law No. 4450 to prohibit the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits in a pet store or other type of retail premises with the exception of those animals offered for adoption from a recognized animal rescue society or shelter organization.
- B. Staff inform Council of the earliest date that a ban can be implemented.
- C. Staff work with recognized animal rescue societies or shelter organizations to educate the public of the inhumane conditions of commercial breeding facilities and promote the benefits of animal adoptions through rescue societies and reputable breeders.
- D. Staff explore other ways of encouraging the adoption of shelter animals and responsible pet ownership which will reduce the number of abandoned animals.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02085)

The Committee adjourned at 5:12 pm.

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REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON
POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

JUNE 28, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, June 28, 2017, at 5:13 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT:	Acting Mayor Raymond Louie Councillor George Affleck Councillor Elizabeth Ball Councillor Adriane Carr Councillor Melissa De Genova Councillor Heather Deal Councillor Kerry Jang Councillor Geoff Meggs Councillor Andrea Reimer Councillor Tim Stevenson
ABSENT:	Mayor Gregor Robertson (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:	Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:	Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
June 28, 2017

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities. Its items of business included:

1. Independent Election Task Force Report - Report Back
2. Sign By-law Review: New Sign By-law and Sign Fee By-law
3. Contract Award for Construction Services for the Knight and Marine Intersection Improvements
4. Acquisition of Social Housing at 1345 Davie Street
5. 955 East Hastings Street - Social Housing Operator Selection and Lease Terms
6. Amendments to Vacancy Tax By-Law
7. Support for Chinese Cultural Centre Seniors Space
8. Banning Pet Sales from Retail Outlets

Items 1 to 8

MOVED by Councillor Jang
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of June 28, 2017, as contained in items 1 to 8, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND ITEM 5
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 5:13 pm.

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