



Establishing a Chinatown Cultural District

RTS 15529 – June 2024

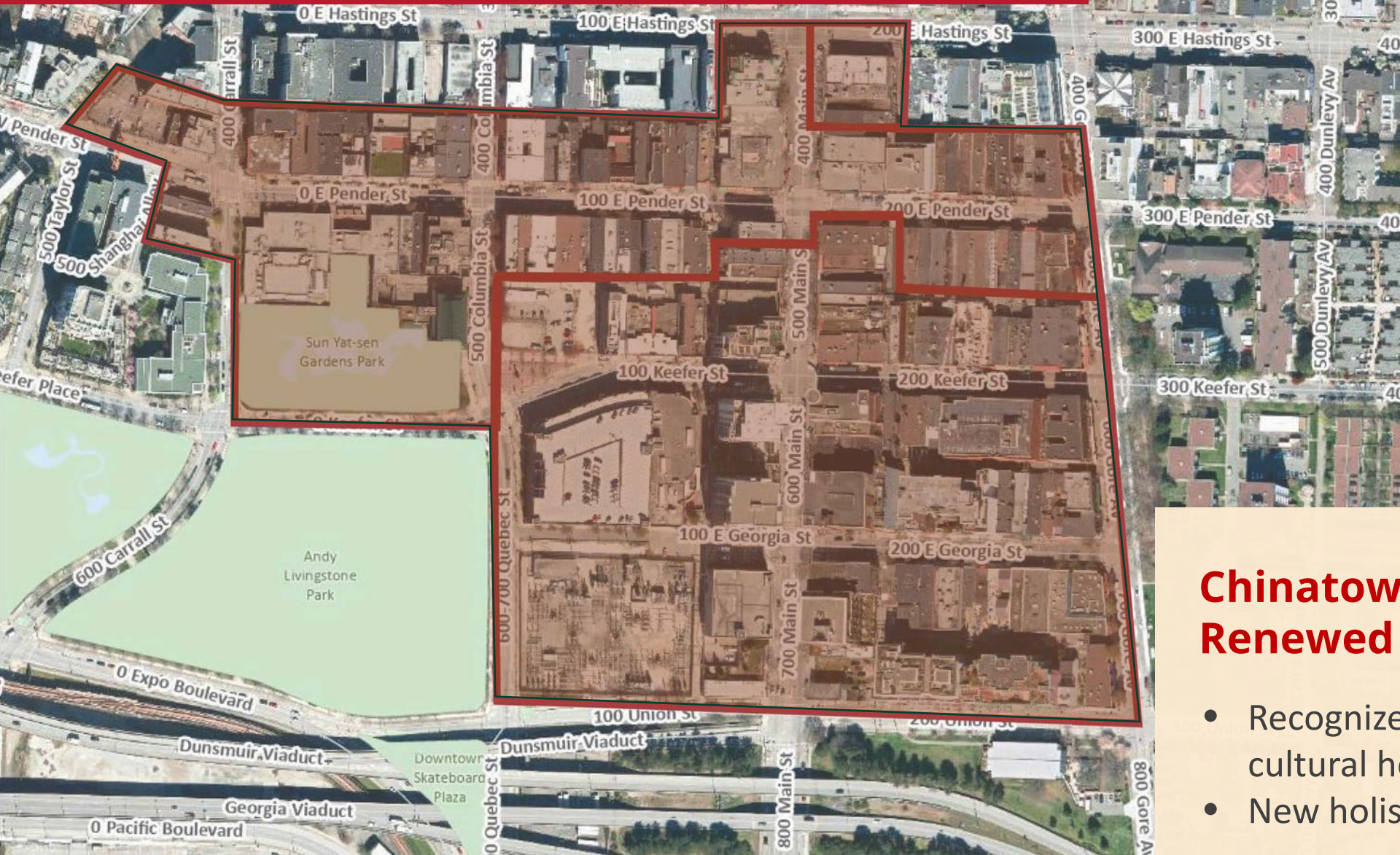
1. Background
2. Draft Chinatown Cultural District Framework
3. Proposed Chinatown Advisory Committee
4. Implementation & Next Steps

- A. THAT Council approve the draft Chinatown Cultural District Framework contained in Appendix A of this report as Council direction for Chinatown-related policy decisions and priorities moving forward;
- B. THAT Council direct staff to return in Q3 2024 with an early implementation plan for the Chinatown Cultural District Framework and budget required, for Council's consideration in the draft 2025 operating budget;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to include in the implementation plan next steps on strategic alignment between the Chinatown Cultural District Framework, Vancouver Plan directions, and other city-wide planning work including forthcoming provincial legislation (Bills 44, 46, 47);

- C. THAT Council endorse the establishment of a Chinatown Advisory Committee (Type D advisory body) to provide advice to Council on matters related to Chinatown, in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference outlined in Appendix B.

Background



Chinatown Cultural District: Renewed vibrancy

- Recognizes Chinatown's history and cultural heritage
- New holistic approach



Draft Chinatown Cultural District Framework

Chinatown Cultural District Approach



Chinatown Cultural District Framework

- GOAL 1** Explore and Update Planning Tools to Support a Cultural District Approach
- GOAL 2** Improve the Overall Environment in Chinatown
- GOAL 3** Support Chinatown's Cultural Heritage Assets and Businesses
- GOAL 4** Optimize Use of City Properties to Co-Deliver Housing, Services, and Amenities
- GOAL 5** Work Together to Support Chinatown Vibrancy



GOAL 1: Explore and Update Planning Tools to Support a Cultural District Approach

- A. Explore a Cultural District approach for Chinatown, with appropriate planning and land use tools.
- B. Identify how current planning and land use tools can be updated in support of a new Cultural District approach.
- C. Explore updates to the City's heritage conservation tools, policies, and processes to better support Chinatown's intangible heritage.
- D. Streamline City permitting and regulatory requirements.



GOAL 2: Improve the Overall Environment in Chinatown

- A. Support ongoing public safety and public realm cleanliness.
- B. Ensure Chinatown's roads and public infrastructure are well-maintained.
- C. Enhance Chinatown's public spaces.



GOAL 3: Support Chinatown's Cultural Heritage Assets and Businesses

- A. Invest in and support the long-term conservation and success of Chinese Societies and Benevolent Associations in Chinatown.
- B. Continue to support intangible heritage assets and activities in Chinatown.
- C. Protect and enhance cultural food assets and culturally significant small businesses.
- D. Highlight Chinatown as a cultural destination for visitors.



GOAL 4: Optimize Use of City Properties to Co-Deliver Housing, Services, and Amenities

- A. Maximize the potential of the City-owned Chinatown Plaza property to support the local economy and draw visitors to the area.
- B. Support and explore opportunities at other City-owned properties in Chinatown.
- C. Explore partnership opportunities to deliver housing, services, and amenities in Chinatown.



GOAL 5: Work Together to Support Chinatown Vibrancy

- A. Engage with Chinatown communities and partners.
- B. Advocate to senior levels of government on coordination and alignment needed to support Chinatown vibrancy.
- C. Establish a cross-departmental approach to support delivery of Chinatown priorities.



Proposed Chinatown Advisory Committee

Provide advice to Mayor and Council

- On City priorities, policies, work programs related to Chinatown
- Including advice on *Framework* implementation
- Range of community perspectives
- Staff will continue to conduct other forms of engagement to support Framework implementation



Framework Implementation

- **Q3 2024:** Early implementation plan for Council consideration
- Cross-departmental coordination approach, led by City Manager's Office
- Informed by advice from proposed Chinatown Advisory Committee



- A. THAT Council approve the draft Chinatown Cultural District Framework contained in Appendix A of this report as Council direction for Chinatown-related policy decisions and priorities moving forward;
- B. THAT Council direct staff to return in Q3 2024 with an early implementation plan for the Chinatown Cultural District Framework and budget required, for Council's consideration in the draft 2025 operating budget;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to include in the implementation plan next steps on strategic alignment between the Chinatown Cultural District Framework, Vancouver Plan directions, and other city-wide planning work including forthcoming provincial legislation (Bills 44, 46, 47);

- C. THAT Council endorse the establishment of a Chinatown Advisory Committee (Type D advisory body) to provide advice to Council on matters related to Chinatown, in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference outlined in Appendix B.