



REPORT TO COUNCIL
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
ON PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

MAY 18, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Planning and Environment was held on Thursday, May 18, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Suzanne Anton, Chair
Mayor Sam Sullivan
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor Kim Capri, Vice-Chair
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Peter Ladner
Councillor B.C. Lee
Councillor Raymond Louie
*Councillor Tim Stevenson

ABSENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball (Sick Leave)
Councillor George Chow (Leave of Absence)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting of April 20, 2006, were adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **1537-1539 Victoria Drive**
Warning to Prospective Purchasers (VanRIMS No.: 11-4400-10)

This item was withdrawn.

2. **139 West 17th Avenue**
Warning to Prospective Purchasers (VanRIMS No.: 11-4400-10)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated April 11, 2006, in which the City Building Inspector sought Council approval to file a 336D Notice against the title to 139 West 17th Avenue to warn prospective purchasers of By-law violations. Peter Sweeney, Manager of Building Inspection, reviewed the report.

MOVED by Councillor Capri
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT the City Clerk be directed to file a 336D Notice against the title to the property at 139 West 17th Avenue (Lot 18, Block 503, District Lot 526, Plan 2354) PID 009-764-160 in order to warn prospective purchasers that there is unauthorized work to the basement, main and second stories of this building in contravention of the Zoning and Development and Vancouver Building By-laws.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote)

3. Replacement of Firehall No.15 - Development Options (VanRIMS No.: 14-1000-01)

At its meeting on May 16, 2006, Vancouver City Council referred this item to the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment Meeting on May 18, 2006, in order to hear from speakers.

Accordingly, the Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated May 5, 2006, in which the Director of Facilities Design and Management and the Fire Chief in consultation with the General Manager of Park Board responded to Council's request to provide a memorandum on the current status of Firehall No. 15 replacement, and presented two redevelopment options with respect to the existing facility. The City Manager noted the most prudent option is for Council to proceed as had been anticipated in the previous two capital plans to redevelop the firehall on the existing site and incorporate features of the existing building in the new design. The City Manager recommended approval of option A, and left the choice between options A(i) and A(ii) for Council's consideration.

Gret Sutherland, Manager of Facilities Development, reviewed the report, explained the history of the area and the work undertaken in preparing the report, provided an overview of alternatives and outlined costs relating to retention.

Ms. Sutherland, along with Chief Ray Holdgate, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services; Clyde Hosein, Director of Facility Design and Management; Deputy Chief Bob Smith, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services; Rob Jenkins, Assistant Director of Current Planning Initiatives Branch; Bruce Maitland, Director of Real Estate Services; and Piet Rutgers, Director of Planning and Operations - Vancouver Park Board responded to questions regarding:

- public involvement;
- funding and timelines for the various options;
- efforts to find alternative sites for the existing building, and issues surrounding its relocation;
- comparisons to other heritage firehalls;
- other potential uses for the existing building; and

- frontage on East 22nd Avenue.

The following delegations voiced concerns regarding the recommendations contained in the report:

Rod MacDonald, President Firefighters Union Local 18
Carmen Rosen
Jackie McHugh
Bryan Young
Shannon Campbell, Still Creek Stewardship Society
Bill McMichael, Collingwood Neighbourhood House
Keith Thomas, Heritage Vancouver

Their comments included:

- once the firehall is torn down, it is gone forever;
- firehall is important to City's history and necessity to save heritage buildings in the area;
- firefighters interested in using building as a place to conduct business and teach first aid and CPR;
- union willing to come up with a business plan to develop options;
- getting information on status of Firehall No. 15 is difficult;
- public meeting to consult with staff was promised - this has not happened;
- option of using existing hall as an arts and culture centre or a fire museum;
- not a problem to move firehall to the parking lot on 22nd Avenue as it is not technically "green space" although it is classified as such by Park Board;
- feeling that options will not be put to the public until they are no longer options;
- Council asked to postpone making a decision and to delegate a staff person as soon as possible to start an advisory committee with interested parties to develop a plan that meets the needs of the area; and
- would like to see existing structure preserved and rehabilitated for community use.

Following the hearing of speakers, staff responded to questions regarding:

- possibility of firefighters assuming costs of maintenance;
- when a third fire vehicle will be required;
- importance of this location;
- clarification of recommendations;
- land requirements for a new or rebuilt firehall;
- size requirement for bays;
- integrating the existing firehall into a new one, on the same site; and
- Renfrew Park and Vancouver Park Board concerns.

MOVED by Councillor Ladner
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council postpone discussion and decision on the status of Firehall 15 for 60 days to allow for public consultation on options to retain the existing fire hall; and

FURTHER THAT staff report back on:

- alternate locations to either build a new station or to relocate the existing firehall structure; and
- design options for a two-bay structure.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

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CITY OF VANCOUVER

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

MAY 18, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, May 18, 2006, at 4:36 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT: Mayor Sam Sullivan
Councillor Suzanne Anton
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor Kim Capri
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Peter Ladner
Councillor B.C. Lee
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Tim Stevenson

ABSENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball (Sick Leave)
Councillor George Chow (Leave of Absence)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Anton
SECONDED by Councillor Capri

THAT this Council resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, Mayor Sullivan in the Chair.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Planning and Environment May 18, 2006

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

1. 1537-1539 Victoria Drive - Warning to Prospective Purchasers - WITHDRAWN
2. 139 West 17th Avenue - Warning to Prospective Purchasers
3. Replacement of Firehall No.15 - Development Options

Items 1-3

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment at its meeting of May 18, 2006, as contained in items 1 to 3, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Lee

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Ladner
SECONDED by Councillor Louie

THAT the report of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

1. Leave of Absence - Councillor Tim Stevenson (VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20)

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT Councillor Stevenson be granted a Leave of Absence from the Special Standing Committee meeting on Transportation and Traffic to be held on June 6, 2006; and from the Standing Committee meeting on Transportation and Traffic, the Regular Council meeting and the Public Hearing to be held on June 13, 2006, for personal reasons.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Translink Governance Review (VanRIMS No.: 13-1400-20)

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Louie. Councillor Anton called notice under section 5.4(c) of the Procedure By-law.

MOVER: Councillor Louie
SECONDER: Councillor

WHEREAS the British Columbia Minister of Transportation has appointed a three-member panel to review the governance structure of the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority (GVTA) or TransLink; and

WHEREAS the review panel is accepting submissions from interested stakeholders, including Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) member municipalities, until the end of May;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council make the following recommendations to the TransLink Governance Review Panel:

1. That the TransLink Board of Directors consist only of locally-elected officials;
2. That the locally-elected municipal officials on the TransLink Board of Directors continue to be appointed by the GVRD Board of Directors on a sub-regional basis;
3. The term of appointment to the TransLink Board of Directors be changed to three years from one year;
4. That the Province and TransLink develop a formal mechanism within the GVTA Act to formalize Provincial input into TransLink's Strategic Transportation Plans, and that this mechanism also contain funding commitments from the Province with regards to TransLink's capital and operational expenditures;
5. That the Province designate a formal political liaison to TransLink;

6. Oversight of TransLink's revenue sources and the region's transportation planning processes must remain at the regional level. For these reasons, TransLink should continue to require the approval of the GVRD Board of Directors for increases to existing revenue streams, the introduction of new revenue streams, and the adoption of long-term strategic plans;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council recommends that the other levels of government provide TransLink with a long-term operational funding, potentially in the form of an ongoing transfer of fuel taxes already collected by the Provincial and Federal Governments, and that this transfer be indexed for inflation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council state its opposition to an authority-style governance structure and to the appointment of non-elected directors to the TransLink Board, as TransLink derives much of its revenue from taxation, and it is crucial to maintain democratic transparency and accountability in the collection and administration of taxes.

notice

The Council adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

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