MOTION ON NOTICE

At the Regular Council meeting following the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting on February 1, 2007, Vancouver City Council referred this item to the Council meeting following the afternoon's Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting, due to time constraints.

1. Budget Consultation Review (VanRIMS No.: 05-1000-01)

MOVER: Councillor Raymond Louie SECONDER: Councillor George Chow

WHEREAS Vancouver's initial 2007 Budget Consultation has been deemed inadequate by many citizens for being a hurried and poorly advertised process and;

WHEREAS in a time of increasing financial costs due to the Olympics and other expenditures, it is imperative that the citizens of Vancouver have an adequate opportunity to understand and speak to the current and future budgets and;

WHEREAS an open, accessible, and accountable budget consultation process is an integral part of fostering citizen participation and pride in our city and;

WHEREAS the Mayor in his State of the City Address stated that he wanted to make Vancouver the most accountable and accessible city in Canada and;

WHEREAS the most important use of public consultation within the City of Vancouver is the annual gathering of citizen input on the budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- a) the city work with all parties, including citizens, community groups, businesses, civic unions, and municipal experts to revise the public consultation process for the 2008 operating budget;
- b) the focus for revision be examples of best practices, regarding budget consultation from leading cities around the world;
- c) staff provide a report by August of 2007 recommending the ways in which the city can improve the budget consultation process.

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