



REPORT TO COUNCIL
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
ON PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

APRIL 5, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Planning and Environment was held on Thursday, April 5, 2007, at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

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

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Laura Kazakoff, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings of March 1 and March 15, 2007, were adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **1537-1539 Victoria Drive - Request for Approval to Seek Injunctive Relief (VanRIMS 11-4400-20)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated February 16, 2007, in which the City Building Inspector sought approval to seek injunctive relief to bring the building at 1537-1539 Victoria Drive in compliance with City By-laws. The General Manager of Community Services recommended approval.

Ed Neufeld, Manager of Building Branch, Building Inspections, provided an overview of the Administrative Report.

Eva Volkamer, owner (materials and photos submitted), spoke in opposition to staff's recommendation. She noted the five suites contained within the subject building provide affordable accommodation of a high quality and no complaints have been received from tenants of the suites. She further noted there are several houses nearby with multiple suites for which permits have not been obtained, and the public would be better served by directing enforcement at those places where health and safety is an issue. Ms. Volkamer suggested the house be grandfathered to its last permitted use of 1969 as an apartment house, and continue the same quality housing rather than evict existing tenants.

MOVED by Councillor Anton
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT the Director of Legal Services is hereby authorized, in her discretion, to commence a legal action or proceeding in relation to the premises located at 1537-1539 Victoria Drive, Lot B of Lots 9 & 10 of Lot 4, Block D of Block 137, District Lot 264A, Plans 309 & 1771, PID 015-385-302 and may, in her discretion, seek injunctive relief in that action or proceeding, in order to bring this building into compliance with City By-laws.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Report Back: The Next Steps in Waste Diversion (VanRIMS 13-6000-10)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated March 14, 2007, in which the General Manager of Engineering Services resubmitted previously distributed reports for information and to provide an opportunity for City and Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) staff to deliver a summary presentation on the subject of waste diversion.

Chris Underwood, Solid Waste Management Engineer, provided a presentation on waste diversion, including background information, where the City currently is in regard to waste management, and the process required for the next steps in waste diversion. Specific measures reviewed included the blue box program and expansions being considered to that program, backyard composting program, and possible expanded services at drop-off depots.

Fred Nenner, Division Manager, Regional Utility Planning Division, GVRD, provided an overview of the Zero Waste Challenge and the Solid Waste Management Plan. He noted the goals of the plan were to minimize waste generation and to maximize re-use, recycling and energy recovery, as well as to manage residual waste responsibly.

Mr. Underwood responded to questions regarding the City's litter audit, the composting program, discarded mattresses, plastic grocery bags and single use beverage cups, and diversion of electronic waste. Mr. Nenner also responded to questions concerning the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Bharbara Gudmundson expressed concern with regard to liquid toxic waste which leaks or is purposely eliminated from garbage trucks onto city lanes and streets, causing a human health hazard. She noted a report on waste diversion should address the issue of separating liquid waste from solid waste. She offered suggestions for addressing this problem, such as removing large waste bins from alleys and ending the use of private waste collection companies.

Brian Davies, Assistant City Engineer, Solid Waste, responded to questions regarding previous actions taken to address the concerns of the above speaker, and noted this came under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Branch and the Permits and Licensing branch of the City.

MOVED by Councillor Anton
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT the Administrative Report dated March 14, 2007, entitled "Report Back: The Next Steps in Waste Diversion" be received for information.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the motion be amended by adding the following:

- B. THAT Vancouver City Council recommend to the GVRD that it adopt an initial target of 75% diversion of waste through the elimination of wood, paper, cardboard, and yard waste from the residual waste stream.
- C. THAT Vancouver City Council urge the Provincial Government to adopt full product stewardship standards, particularly in their new electronic waste regulations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

The amendment having carried, the motion, as amended, was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Councillor Louie absent for the vote.

**3. 760 Pacific Boulevard - Edgewater Casino ULC - Liquor Primary Liquor License
(VanRIMS 11-4600-01)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated March 20, 2007, in which the Chief License Inspector recommended Council endorse the application by Edgewater Casino ULC for a 2,643 total capacity Liquor Primary Liquor License for the premises at 760 Pacific Boulevard, which would include 221 seats for outdoor patios, and hours of licensing from 9:00

a.m. to 2:00 a.m., seven days per week. The General Manager of Community Services and the City Manager recommended approval.

Paul Teichroeb, Chief License Inspector, provided an overview of the application and recommended conditions of approval put forward for Council's approval.

Mr. Teichroeb, along with Inspector Warren Lemcke, Vancouver Police Department, responded to questions regarding possible gaming revenue increases with this application, and concerns related to potential problems which may be caused by increased access to alcohol in this location.

John Cahill, Edgewater Casino ULC, spoke in support of their application for a liquor primary liquor license. He reviewed initiatives which have been undertaken since Paragon Gaming took over the casino last year, and noted the continued support for the Downtown Eastside job creation program. He also noted the vast majority of beverages consumed in a casino are non-alcoholic and liquor service in casinos is regulated by posted requirements of the BC Lottery Corporation.

Wendy Thomson, Community Gaming Management Association, spoke in support of the application, and noted the need to provide an equal playing field among casinos in the Lower Mainland. Ms. Thomson noted the high level of security at casinos makes them an option for a safe night out for young adults.

MOVED by Councillor Ladner
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council, having considered the opinion of area residents and business operators of the community as determined by neighbourhood notifications, the proximity of residential developments, potential noise impacts and relevant Council policy as outlined in the Administrative Report dated March 20, 2007, entitled "760 Pacific Boulevard - Edgewater Casino ULC - Liquor Primary liquor licence", endorse the application by Edgewater Casino ULC for a Liquor Primary liquor licence (Liquor Establishment Class 6) at 760 Pacific Boulevard subject to:

- i. A maximum total capacity of 2,643 persons;
- ii. Outdoor capacity of 221 persons;
- iii. A Time-Limited Development Permit;
- iv. Hours of operation limited to 9:00am to 2:00am, seven days per week;
- v. The surrendering of the existing Food Primary Liquor License at the time of issuance of the Liquor Primary License in the casino building and Plaza of Nations with a total capacity of 4,759 persons;
- vi. The cancellation of the Liquor Primary License if the primary use of the establishment changes from that of a casino;
- vii. The patios ceasing all liquor service by 11:00 pm and no music permitted on the patio;
- viii. Patrons being permitted to remain inside the casino establishment after

- ix. the ceasing of Liquor Service at 2:00 am; and
A signed Good Neighbour Agreement prior to business licence issuance.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Additional Taxicab and Dual Taxicab Licenses (VanRIMS 11-4600-25)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated March 21, 2007, in which the Chief License Inspector recommended approval for the issuance of 57 taxicab and 54 dual taxicab licenses for 2007 and for their issuance in such a manner that, by the end of 2007, each taxicab fleet will consist of at least 15% accessible (dual) taxicabs. Also recommended was a policy to encourage the selection of highly fuel-efficient vehicles, a requirement for global positioning systems, and a proposed three-year taxicab license expansion program. The General Manager of Community Services recommended approval of staff's recommendations.

The City Manager supported the recommendations put forward in the report, and also recommended that the City services provided to the taxi industry be reviewed and reported back to Council with options to increase License fees to at least recover these costs.

Paul Teichroeb, Chief License Inspector, provided an overview of the Administrative Report and responded to questions concerning taxicab service levels, City services provided to taxi companies, taxicab capacities, and concerns with regard to taxi drivers using cell phones and difficulties in providing adequate taxicab service at the cruise-ship terminal.

The following people spoke in regard to the report and a summary of their comments is provided below:

Dustin Anderson
John Palis, Vancouver Taxi Association
Stephen Regan, Tourism Vancouver
Salim Nurdin, Hybrid Propane Lease Specialist

- support expressed for considering the use of pedicabs in the downtown core, which would contribute to goal of reduced emissions and congestion and would assist the motorized fleet by handling the shorter trips which are less profitable to them;
- Vancouver Taxi Association supports the report in its entirety;
- accessible cabs should be given similar stopping regulations as Handi-Dart;
- allowing cabs to stop briefly in no-stopping zones to pick up passengers rather than circling the block would reduce emissions;
- equally as important as increasing the number of licenses is increasing the efficiency of taxi fleets; taxis need to be visible and people need to know where to find them;
- taxi companies need to partner with Tourism Vancouver on a continuing basis; and
- support expressed for the use of hybrid vehicles; information regarding leasing and servicing of hybrid vehicles was provided.

During the hearing of the foregoing speakers, Mr. Teichroeb responded to questions regarding the proposed use of pedicabs, stopping regulations for taxicabs, service from the cruise-ship terminal, methodology which would determine the allocation of the proposed new licenses, and hybrid taxicab vehicles.

MOVED by Councillor Anton

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the issuance, under the Vehicles for Hire By-law, of 57 taxicab and 54 dual taxicab licenses for 2007, and that Council authorize the Chief License Inspector to issue licenses in such a manner that, by the end of 2007, at least 15% of each taxicab fleet consists of dual taxicabs.
- B. THAT Council approve a requirement that the number of vehicle for hire licenses to which a person is entitled not exceed the number of vehicle identifiers to which that person is entitled under licenses issued by the Passenger Transportation Board.
- C. THAT the equipment for each taxicab and dual taxicab licensed after enactment of the by-law amendment to implement these Recommendations include a functioning global positioning system.
- D. THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare a by-law amending the Vehicles for Hire By-law generally in accordance with Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated March 21, 2007, entitled "Additional Taxicab and Dual Taxicab Licenses".
- E. THAT Council establish a policy to strongly encourage taxi companies to select, whenever possible, for all new and replacement taxicabs except for dual taxicabs:
 - (a) a Federal Energuide fuel efficiency award winner vehicle for any given year as outlined in Appendix F of the Administrative Report dated March 21, 2007, entitled "Additional Taxicab and Dual Taxicab Licenses", or
 - (b) if that is not possible because of lack of availability or cost, the next best highly fuel efficient vehicle (ie. the Top Efficiency category) as outlined in Appendix F,

in order to facilitate conversion of Vancouver's taxicab fleet to the lowest carbon emission taxicab fleet in North America.

- F. THAT Council support a gradual increase in taxicab licenses over the next three years as indicated in the Administrative Report dated March 21, 2007, entitled

“Additional Taxicab and Dual Taxicab Licenses” and subject to an annual staff report.

- G. THAT staff review the cost of City services provided to the taxi industry and report back on options to increase License fees to at least recover the cost of all City Services.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Project Civil City - Progress Update (VanRIMS 08-9000-30)

Prior to discussion on this matter, Councillor Capri stepped down from the Chair to enable her to participate in debate. The Chair was assumed by Councillor Anton, Vice-Chair.

At its meeting on April 3, 2007, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to a Standing Committee meeting on April 5, 2007, in order to hear from people who had requested to speak.

Accordingly, the Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated March 27, 2007, in which the City Manager, in consultation with the Corporate Management Team, informed Council of the initial progress in implementing Project Civil City (PCC), the development of the PCC Implementation Office (PCCIO), the recruitment process for the PCC Commissioner, the identification of possible action plans and descriptions of initial projects already underway. The report also identified areas of work that need to be built on by the PCCIO, based on staff initial assessment of PCC and of City initiatives that are already underway or may be underway within the next year.

The following people spoke in regard to the report and a summary of their comments is provided below:

Audrey Laferriere
Gary Jarvis
Richard Douglas, Hospitality Vancouver Association
Rider Coeey
Bharbara Gudmundson

- building awnings should be washed once a year;
- concern expressed regarding proposed measures to deal with panhandling and drug use, including the proposed “no sit no lie” by-law;
- consideration should be given to housing for First Nations in Downtown Eastside;
- suggestion that Storyeum building be used to provide housing for homeless, with a community market for micro-businesses on the ground floor;
- entertainment industry has serious concerns with regard to possibility of rolling back liquor service hours to 2:00 a.m.; industry is more desirous than ever of working together to solve the problems on Granville Street; measures have already been taken

in that regard, including removal of line-ups by 2:00 a.m. and increased security patrols;

- extended hours have resulted in eradication of illegal after-hours venues;
- many of the problems on Granville Street are due to difficulties in getting a taxicab out of the area, and are caused by patrons of other events in the downtown core, rather than Granville Street bar patrons;
- lack of consequences contributes to ongoing bad behaviour in entertainment district;
- concern expressed that the progress report is too all-encompassing; materials should be separated into four or five categories and brought to Council individually.

During the hearing of the foregoing speakers, Wendy Au, Assistant City Manager, and Superintendent Steve Sweeney, Vancouver Police Department, responded to questions regarding concerns raised by the speakers.

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT the Administrative Report dated March 27, 2007, entitled "Project Civil City: Progress Update" be received for information.

amended

MOVED by Councillor Capri

THAT the motion be amended by adding the following:

- A. THAT the City Manager bring forward a staff report on the process, implications, and specific by-law amendments necessary to roll back the bar closing hours which are later than 2 a.m. throughout the City to achieve consistent operating hours across the city, but in no case shall they exceed 2:00 a.m.
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be directed to review the fines for by-law infractions related to public order, such as anti-fighting, urinating in public, etc., and report back to Council within 60 days with recommendations for increasing the minimum and maximum fines.
- C. THAT the City Manager be directed to seek the necessary legislative changes from the Province of British Columbia and recommend City By-law amendments to permit the City to significantly increase the collection rate on unpaid tickets for by-law infractions by increasing penalties for late payment and/or withholding Licenses.
- D. THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to TransLink outlining the issues relating to public disorder in the City and how a lack of transit services past 1:00 a.m. is impacting this situation and, further that, Council request

TransLink to immediately extend SkyTrain and/or bus service leaving the downtown core to 3:00 a.m.

- E. THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to all holders of taxi licenses in Vancouver to express Council's interest in providing increased taxi service in the downtown until at least 3:00 a.m.
- F. THAT the Project Civil City Commissioner consult with the Chief Constable, the bar owners, residents associations, business improvement associations and other stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan that will include other initiatives to be implemented to significantly improve public order.

amended/referred

* * * * *

The Committee was recessed at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened at 7:30 p.m. with the same members present.

* * * * *

Following the recess, Ms. Au and Superintendent Sweeney, along with Don MacPherson, Drug Policy Coordinator, Paul Teichroeb, Chief License Inspector, Barb Windsor, Deputy Chief License Inspector, Jacquie Forbes-Roberts, General Manager of Community Services, and Judy Rogers, City Manager, responded to questions regarding the Vancouver Agreement, the drug policy program, measures to address problems in Granville Street entertainment district, by-law fines revenues and enforcement, aggressive pan-handling, and theft of metals.

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the wording in "A." above be struck and replaced with the following:

THAT the City Manager bring forward a staff report reviewing the possible causes for the current problems on Granville Street including a review of Granville Street as an entertainment district, the number of streets currently on Granville Street and the hours of operation.

withdrawn

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the pending amendments and amendment to the amendments be referred to City staff for consideration when preparing report-backs and recommendations to Council on this matter.

amended

The Committee agreed to amend Councillor Cadman's referral motion to refer only A., B., and F. of Councillor Capri's amendments and Councillor Stevenson agreed to withdraw his amendment to the amendment.

The referral motion, as amended, was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee agreed to amend Councillor Capri's amendments by adding the word "Driver's" in front of "License" in C. above, and by striking the words "and/or bus" in D. above.

Councillor Capri's amendments, as amended, were put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be amended by adding the following:

- G. THAT the City Manager be directed to report back on an appropriate increase in the number of bylaw process servers to significantly increase the collection rate of unpaid tickets for bylaw infractions.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the amendment "G." be referred to City staff for consideration when preparing report-backs and recommendations to Council on this matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The amendments and referrals having carried, the final motion, as amended, was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Note from Meeting Coordinator: For clarity, the final approved motion below reflects revisions to the lettering from what is shown above.)

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED:

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT the Administrative Report dated March 27, 2007, entitled "Project Civil City: Progress Update" be received for information.
- B. THAT the City Manager be directed to seek the necessary legislative changes from the Province of British Columbia and recommend City By-law amendments to permit the City to significantly increase the collection rate on unpaid tickets

for by-law infractions by increasing penalties for late payment and/or withholding Driver's Licenses.

- C. THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to TransLink outlining the issues relating to public disorder in the City and how a lack of transit services past 1:00 a.m. is impacting this situation and, further that, Council request TransLink to immediately extend SkyTrain service leaving the downtown core to 3:00 a.m.
- D. THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to all holders of taxi licenses in Vancouver to express Council's interest in providing increased taxi service in the downtown until at least 3:00 a.m.
- E. THAT the following motions be referred to City staff for consideration when preparing report-backs and recommendations to Council on this matter:
 - 1. THAT the City Manager bring forward a staff report on the process, implications, and specific by-law amendments necessary to roll back the bar closing hours which are later than 2 a.m. throughout the City to achieve consistent operating hours across the city, but in no case shall they exceed 2:00 a.m.
 - 2. THAT the Director of Legal Services be directed to review the fines for by-law infractions related to public order, such as anti-fighting, urinating in public, etc., and report back to Council within 60 days with recommendations for increasing the minimum and maximum fines.
 - 3. THAT the Project Civil City Commissioner consult with the Chief Constable, the bar owners, residents associations, business improvement associations and other stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan that will include other initiatives to be implemented to significantly improve public order.
 - 4. THAT the City Manager be directed to report back on an appropriate increase in the number of bylaw process servers to significantly increase the collection rate of unpaid tickets for bylaw infractions.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

* * * * *



CITY OF VANCOUVER

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

APRIL 5, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, April 5, 2007, at 9:55 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 Elizabeth Ball
- Councillor David Cadman
- Councillor Kim Capri
- Councillor George Chow
- Councillor Heather Deal
- Councillor Peter Ladner
- Councillor B.C. Lee
- Councillor Raymond Louie
- Councillor Tim Stevenson

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Laura Kazakoff, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Capri
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

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 April 5, 2007

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 - Request for Approval to Seek Injunctive Relief
2. Report Back: The Next Steps in Waste Diversion

3. 760 Pacific Boulevard - Edgewater Casino ULC - Liquor Primary Liquor License
4. Additional Taxicab and Dual Taxicab Licenses
5. Project Civil City - Progress Update

Items 1-5

MOVED by Councillor Chow

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment at its meeting of Thursday, April 5, 2007, as contained in items 1-5, 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 Lee

SECONDED by Councillor Ball

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENQUIRIES AND OTHER MATTERS

1. **Sewer Access Covers (VanRIMS 11-2600-20)**

Councillor Deal noted the new Sewer Access Covers were being installed in various spots across the city, and requested information as to their locations and what kind of feedback, if any, has been received from the public.

2. **Noise Complaints (VanRIMS 01-5000-11)**

Councillor Louie noted the continuing challenge in dealing with noise and nuisance neighbour complaints and requested an information memo on the process for responding to such complaints and an indication of how it is expected these types of concerns may be better addressed in the future.

The Council adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

* * * * *