

Homelessness Crisis In Vancouver

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

SECONDED by Councillor Stevenson

WHEREAS:

1. the number of homeless in Vancouver has increased by 19 percent since 2005, and the actual number of people living on Vancouver's street is up 37 percent since 2005;
2. the City's Housing Centre has determined that for the 2005-2010 period, while 1597 new units of market housing will be built in the Downtown East Side (DTES), only 557 new units of social housing will be built;
3. the City's Planning Department is studying 50 sites in the DTES to determine their suitability for development of new high rise, multi-unit market housing developments;
4. in the last four months at least 250 SRO rooms have been removed from the housing stock of the DTES, and another 91 tenants of the Pacific Hotel and Star Beach Haven have been given notices or letters of eviction;
5. the Carnegie Action Project Hotel Study has found that 1327 rooms in the DTES are unavailable to people with income levels equivalent to provincial social assistance because of closures, imminent risk of closures and rents over \$425 per month; and
6. the Eco-Density policy of development in the DTES would allow developers to overwhelm the DTES with market condos, contrary to the DTES Housing Plan which calls for approximately 25 percent of units in the area to be market housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council implement a replacement policy for development in the DTES so that for every unit of market housing that is built, one unit of affordable social housing are also constructed.

Referred

* * * * *