

REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
ON CITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS



DECEMBER 2, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets was held on Thursday, December 2, 2010, at 9:30 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Raymond Louie, Chair
Mayor Gregor Robertson
Councillor Suzanne Anton
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor George Chow*
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang*
Councillor Geoff Meggs, Vice-Chair
Councillor Andrea Reimer
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

ABSENT: Councillor Tim Stevenson (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

1. Community and Neighbourhood Arts Development Program - Pilot
November 4, 2010

Staff from Cultural Services provided a brief overview of the report and responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Deal
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council approve a total of \$75,000 in Community and Neighbourhood Arts Development Grants to 17 organizations as listed in Table 1 of the Administrative Report dated November 4, 2010, entitled "Community and Neighbourhood Arts Development Program - Pilot". Source of funds to be the 2010 New Cultural Grants Program budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

2. 125th Anniversary Grants Allocation - 1st of 2 deadlines
November 8, 2010

Staff from Cultural Services provided a brief overview of the report and responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Deal
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve a total of \$643,000 in 125th Anniversary Grants—Large-scale Component—to 25 organizations as listed in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated November 8, 2010, entitled “125th Anniversary Grants Allocation - 1st of 2 deadlines”. Source of funds to be the \$400,000 balance of the Cultural Tourism Product Investment Grant Program, \$70,000 from the New Cultural Grants budget and \$173,000 from the Cultural Tourism Strategic Planning Reserve.
- B. THAT Council approve a total of \$268,000 in 125th Anniversary Grants—Small-scale Component—to 37 organizations as listed in Appendix B of the Administrative Report dated November 8, 2010, entitled “125th Anniversary Grants Allocation - 1st of 2 deadlines”. Source of funds to be the Cultural Tourism Strategic Planning Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

3. Southeast False Creek Neighbourhood Energy Utility (SEFC NEU) 2011 Customer Rates
November 17, 2010

Staff from Engineering Services provided a presentation on the proposed SEFC NEU customer rates for 2011 and, together with staff from Business Planning and Services, responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Reimer
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council approve the amendments to the Energy Utility System By-law (“the By-law”), generally as set out in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated November 17, 2010, entitled “Southeast False Creek Neighbourhood Energy Utility (SEFC NEU) 2011 Customer Rates”, including the establishment of 2011 customer rates and fees, with a 3.15% increase over 2010 customer rates.

FURTHER THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to bring the By-law amendment, generally as set out in Appendix A of the above-noted Administrative Report, forward for enactment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Chow absent for the vote.)

4. Approval of Council Initiative - Proposed Hastings Crossing BIA
November 16, 2010

Staff from the Business Improvement Area (BIA) Program provided a brief overview of the report.

The Committee heard from five speakers, four of whom spoke in support of the proposed Hastings Crossing BIA and one who spoke in general support but noted the need for the BIA to become involved with the community in addressing the lack of affordable housing.

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the Hastings Crossing Business Improvement Association as sponsor for the proposed Hastings Crossing BIA.
- B. THAT Council approve commencement of a Council Initiative to establish the proposed Hastings Crossing BIA; and

THAT Council forward the application of the Hastings Crossing Business Improvement Association to a hearing of the Court of Revision.
- C. THAT the City notify the property owners and tenants in the area (outlined in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated November 16, 2010, entitled "Approval of Council Initiative - Proposed Hastings Crossing BIA") of the proposed BIA and BIA levy.
- D. THAT Council approve a 5 year (2011-2016) funding-ceiling of \$650,000 for the proposed Hastings Crossing BIA, subject to Council approval of the BIA at the Court of Revision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillor Jang absent for the vote.)

5. Creation of Public Square, 800 Robson Street

The Committee heard from one speaker who expressed support and offered suggestions to further enhance the proposal (*submission on file*).

MOVED by Councillor Anton

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

- 1. The 800 block of Robson Street between Howe Street and Hornby Street has been identified over the years as being a good location for a major public square for the City of Vancouver;

2. The 800 Robson has been closed for nearly a year now, during the Olympics and the renovations to the Courthouse complex; and
3. The 800 Robson is between the Art Gallery and the Courthouse, enjoys an open and sunny southern exposure, and is already a favoured public gathering space.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff consult with interested parties, including the general public, TransLink, the Downtown Vancouver BIA, the Robson Street BIA, the Art Gallery, and the Province of British Columbia to consider the feasibility of creating a major public square at the 800 Robson Street, with a permanent closure of the street in that block.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Reimer

THAT the Motion be struck and replaced with the following:

WHEREAS on March 25, 2010, Council approved a motion from Mayor Robertson to request a staff report on the feasibility of a number of Olympic Legacy projects including opening Granville, Robson and Mainland Streets to pedestrians, a public square on the west side of the Art Gallery and a permanent streetcar line.

WHEREAS on April 6, 2010, Council approved a subsequent motion from Councillor Cadman to refer the issue of opening Robson Street to pedestrians on weekends as part of the Olympic legacy.

WHEREAS in November 2010, prior to the staff report on Olympic Legacy project opportunities being received by Council, Councillor Anton put a notice on motion requesting that staff consult with affected parties regarding a public square at 800 Robson Street.

WHEREAS it is anticipated that in the next month staff will be reporting on a permanent "Open Streets" program which Council approved on February 4, 2010, after the report on the 2009 "Summer Spaces" program, a pilot of temporary pedestrian openings for streets on weekends, and subsequently reconfirmed when the 125th Anniversary report was received.

WHEREAS Rediscover Granville was a highly successful summer long closure of downtown Granville Street in 2010 that built on the Olympic Legacy, and work from the 2009 Summer Spaces program, to provide a public space in downtown Vancouver which the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, the Downtown Vancouver Association and other organizations would like to see continued.

WHEREAS as part of the Greenest City 2020 mobility goal, staff are working on a report expected to come to Council in January regarding public spaces in downtown to support greater walking, biking and transit use.

WHEREAS it would behoove Council to see the results of these reports to understand the total public realm plan for downtown Vancouver, and their potential impacts on stakeholders, before providing direction to consult on any one item.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request staff to continue their work on reports already requested and that the results of these reports be collated into a Downtown Public Spaces Plan - including, but not limited to, permanent summer pedestrian openings of Granville Street, a major public square at 800 Robson Street, and temporary weekend closures of Robson and Mainland Streets - which stakeholders can be consulted on.

amended

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During debate it was

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT, under Section 2.3 (a) of the Procedure By-law, Council extend the length of the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting by one hour or less.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

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AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the resolution be amended by inserting the words “to coincide with Vancouver’s 125th Anniversary with intention to meet an April 2011 date” after the words “Robson Street”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The amendment to the amendment having carried, the amendment as amended was put and CARRIED with Councillor Anton opposed.

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

FINAL MOTION AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS on March 25, 2010, Council approved a motion from Mayor Robertson to request a staff report on the feasibility of a number of Olympic Legacy projects including opening Granville, Robson and Mainland Streets to pedestrians, a public square on the west side of the Art Gallery and a permanent streetcar line.

WHEREAS on April 6, 2010, Council approved a subsequent motion from Councillor Cadman to refer the issue of opening Robson Street to pedestrians on weekends as part of the Olympic legacy.

WHEREAS in November 2010, prior to the staff report on Olympic Legacy project opportunities being received by Council, Councillor Anton put a notice on motion requesting that staff consult with affected parties regarding a public square at 800 Robson Street.

WHEREAS it is anticipated that in the next month staff will be reporting on a permanent "Open Streets" program which Council approved on February 4, 2010, after the report on the 2009 "Summer Spaces" program, a pilot of temporary pedestrian openings for streets on weekends, and subsequently reconfirmed when the 125th Anniversary report was received.

WHEREAS Rediscover Granville was a highly successful summer long closure of downtown Granville Street in 2010 that built on the Olympic Legacy, and work from the 2009 Summer Spaces program, to provide a public space in downtown Vancouver which the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, the Downtown Vancouver Association and other organizations would like to see continued.

WHEREAS as part of the Greenest City 2020 mobility goal, staff are working on a report expected to come to Council in January regarding public spaces in downtown to support greater walking, biking and transit use.

WHEREAS it would behoove Council to see the results of these reports to understand the total public realm plan for downtown Vancouver, and their potential impacts on stakeholders, before providing direction to consult on any one item.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request staff to continue their work on reports already requested and that the results of these reports be collated into a Downtown Public Spaces Plan - including, but not limited to, permanent summer pedestrian openings of Granville Street, a major public square at 800 Robson Street, to coincide with Vancouver's 125th Anniversary with intention to meet an April 2011 date, and temporary weekend closures of Robson and Mainland Streets - which stakeholders can be consulted on.

The Committee adjourned at 12:16 pm

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REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON
CITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS

DECEMBER 2, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, December 2, 2010, at 12:16 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson
Councillor Suzanne Anton
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor George Chow
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Geoff Meggs
Councillor Andrea Reimer
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

ABSENT: Councillor Tim Stevenson (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets
December 2, 2010

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

1. Community and Neighbourhood Arts Development Program - Pilot
2. 125th Anniversary Grants Allocation - 1st of 2 deadlines
3. Southeast False Creek Neighbourhood Energy Utility (SEFC NEU) 2011 Customer Rates
4. Approval of Council Initiative - Proposed Hastings Crossing BIA
5. Creation of Public Square, 800 Robson Street

Items 1 - 5

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of December 2, 2010, as contained in Items 1 to 5, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
ITEMS 1 AND 2 BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 12:17 pm.

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