

3. Reducing Regulations for Small Businesses

Vancouver City Council, at its meeting on February 15, 2011, referred this matter to the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting on February 17, 2011, in order to hear from speakers.

MOVER: Councillor Suzanne Anton

SECONDER: Councillor Woodsworth

WHEREAS

1. In 2007 a number of changes were made to C zones allowing greater flexibility in regulations affecting small businesses, that is, businesses occupying space less than 200 sq meters (RTS 06532, 13 Feb 2007 report, meeting date 1 Mar 2007);
2. In particular, the changes in regulations were helpful to limited food service restaurants and allowed them to become full service restaurants;
3. Changes included reducing parking requirements and allowing more flexible loading arrangements;
4. Many small businesses in other "C" zones would like the opportunity to benefit from similar regulation changes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to report back with recommended changes in bylaws to help small businesses, including consideration of:

- i. Expanding the changes made in 2007 to all commercial zones;
- ii. Whether small businesses in CD-1 zones can be included;
- iii. Whether the washroom requirements may be reduced from two to one where it is impracticable to build a second washroom.

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