



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT

JULY 25, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Planning, Transportation and Environment was held on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at 9:36 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Andrea Reimer*, Chair
Mayor Gregor Robertson*
Councillor George Affleck
Councillor Elizabeth Ball
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Raymond Louie*
Councillor Geoff Meggs, Vice-Chair
Councillor Tim Stevenson
Councillor Tony Tang

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager
Sadhu Johnston, Deputy City Manager
Brenda Proskan, General Manager, Community Services

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Capital Grant and Lease Extension for an Expanded Low Barrier Women Shelter:
St. James Community Service Society - 329 and 333 Powell Street
June 22, 2012

The Assistant Director, Housing Policy responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Jang

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve a grant of \$500,000 to the St. James Community Service Society ("SJCSS") towards the renovation and expansion of the Powell Place Shelter ("Powell Place") to provide 52 permanent low-barrier shelter beds for women on lands owned by the City and leased to SJCSS at 1) 329 Powell Street, legally described as PID: 015-715-922, Lot 37, Block 40, District Lot 196 Plan 196 and PID: 015-605-612, Lot 38, Block 40, District Lot 196, Plan 196 and 2) 333 Powell Street, legally described as PID: 014-048-299, Lot D, Block 40, District Lot 196, Plan 22269 (together, the "Lands") subject to the confirmation of total project funding sources; source of funds to be the 2009-2011 Capital Budgets for Supportive Non-Market Housing, to be added to the 2012 Capital Budget from the "timing uncertain" category.
- B. THAT Council authorize the City to extend the leases to the St. James Community Service Society (SJCSS) for 329 Powell Street and 333 Powell Street to 2053 and make any modifications to the leases that may be required to effect such extensions, to enable SJCSS to obtain financing to facilitate the renovation and expansion of Powell Place, at nominal prepaid rent on the terms and conditions set out in this report and as otherwise required by the Managing Director of Social Development, the Director of Real Estate Services and the Director of Legal Services.
- C. THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to execute the necessary legal documents on behalf of the City.
- D. THAT Council call upon the Province to work with its partners to maintain and increase the shelter capacity for women in the Downtown Eastside and across the rest of the City.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

**2. Capital Grant and MOU for a Permanent Aboriginal Shelter at 946 and 950 Main Street
July 16, 2012**

The Assistant Director, Housing Policy, and Patrick Stewart, Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee, responded to questions.

Susan Tatoosh, Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society, provided comments and spoke in support of the recommendation.

MOVED by Councillor Jang
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve a capital grant of up to \$100,000 to the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society (the "VAFCS") to enable the VAFCS to engage a consultant to provide preliminary designs to explore a potential development on lands owned by the City located at: 1) 946 Main Street (PID: 005-749-239, Lot 10, Block 24, District Lot 196, Plan 184) and, 2) 950 Main Street (PID: 005-749-484, Lot 11, Block 24, District Lot 196, Plan 184) (the "Lands") for a social service centre which will also provide shelter services (the "Centre") on the first three floors of the building to be constructed on the Lands, having consideration to social housing that may be located above the Centre; source of funds to be the 2009-2011 Capital Budgets for Supportive Non-Market Housing, to be added to the 2012 Capital Budget from the "timing uncertain" category.
- B. THAT Council authorize the City to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") with the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society (the "VAFCS") setting out the framework for the development and use of the Centre by the VAFCS, in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in this report and to the satisfaction of the Managing Director of Social Development, the Director of Real Estate Services and the Director of Legal Services and that Council authorize the General Manager of Community Services and the General Manager of Financial Services to execute the MOU on behalf of the City.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations shall arise hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.
- D. THAT Council call upon the Province to work with its partners to maintain and increase the shelter capacity for urban Aboriginal people and other specialized populations including women and youth in Vancouver.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

**3. Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan and Economic Revitalization Strategy
July 11, 2012**

The Assistant Director, Central Area Planning, and Planning staff presented the report and responded to questions.

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During the hearing of speakers at 11:48 am, 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 Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting to 12:30 pm or until all speakers for item 3 are heard.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

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The Committee heard from thirteen speakers in support of the recommendation and four speakers in opposition to the recommendation.

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Council recessed at 12:25 pm, and reconvened at 2:41 pm, with Councillor Meggs as Vice-Chair and with the same members present, except for Councillors Louie, Reimer and Stevenson and Mayor Robertson, who were not in the Council Chamber.

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MOVED by Councillor Tang
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council adopt the "Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan" as described in Appendix A of the Policy Report dated July 11, 2012, entitled "Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan and Economic Revitalization Strategy".
- B. THAT Council adopt the three-year Economic Revitalization Strategy described in Appendix A of the Policy Report dated July 11, 2012, entitled "Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan and Economic Revitalization Strategy", and begin implementation, in partnership with the community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Louie and Reimer absent for the vote)

4. Oakridge Centre Redevelopment July 19, 2012

The Assistant Director, Community Planning, presented the report and along with Gordon Wylie, Ivanhoe Cambridge, responded to questions.

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During the hearing of speakers at 3:52 pm, Councillor Reimer returned and resumed as Chair.

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The Committee heard from two speakers in support of the recommendations, one speaker in opposition to the recommendations and two speakers who expressed concerns with the Oakridge Redevelopment report as presented.

MOVED by Mayor Robertson

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council indicate it is willing to consider redevelopment proposals for Oakridge Centre that vary from the parameters established in the Oakridge Centre Policy Statement (2007) and, if so, direct staff to proceed to the rezoning stage and undertake the technical work and public consultation necessary to fully explore and address the key issues identified in this report.
- B. THAT, subject to approval of above, the staff resources and estimated cost-recovered budget (outlined in Appendix B of the Administrative Report dated July 19, 2012, entitled "Oakridge Centre Redevelopment") of \$762,000 be approved to cover the work required to explore redevelopment proposals and to determine recommendations to Council with respect to referring a rezoning application to public hearing for Oakridge Centre; and, if Council approves such rezoning in principle after a public hearing, further staff resources and estimated costs of \$384,000 be approved for costs incurred during rezoning enactment; and,

FURTHER THAT, consistent with cost-recovery practice, Council accept contributions from the project proponents (Ivanhoe Cambridge and Westbank) to fully cover these costs.
- C. THAT the passage of the above resolutions will in no way fetter Council's discretion in considering any rezoning application for Oakridge Centre, and does not create any legal rights for any person or obligation on the part of the City; any expenditures of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the costs.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to work with the community to define and to carry out an enhanced program of public consultation during the Oakridge Centre rezoning process that recognizes its scale and strategic significance, identifies community principles that can help guide the project and provides multiple opportunities for proactive public input to ensure community principles and needs are addressed.

- E. THAT Council confirm that the Oakridge/ 41st Avenue station area is the highest priority for Phase 3 work due to the strategic importance of this node on the Canada Line, and direct staff to actively look for opportunities to commence this work as resources become available from other planning programs.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED BY Councillor Affleck

THAT the following be added as F:

THAT given the density of the proposed Oakridge Centre redevelopment, all efforts should be made to have Community Amenity Contributions be used for traditional amenities such as parks, libraries, auditoriums, childcare, and community centres.

LOST

(Councillors Carr, Deal, Jang, Meggs, Reimer, Stevenson and Tang and Mayor Robertson opposed)

(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Climate Change Adaptation Strategy June 28, 2012

At its meeting on July 24, 2012, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on July 25, 2012, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from three speakers in support of the recommendations.

Sustainability staff responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council adopt in principle the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (the Strategy), generally as shown included as Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated June 28, 2012, entitled "Climate Change Adaptation Strategy", and direct staff to begin implementation of the highest priority actions. Staff will seek Council approval of programs and projects that require policy change or significant financial investments and cannot be accommodated in current operating and capital budgets.

- B. THAT staff report back with a updated climate adaptation strategy by 2017 to incorporate additional climate science and best practices.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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The Committee agreed to vary the agenda in order to deal with Item 7 prior to Item 6. For clarity, the minutes are recorded in chronological order.

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7. Support Vancouver's Digital Media Sector

At its meeting on July 24, 2012, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on July 25, 2012, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from one speaker in support of the recommendations.

MOVED by Mayor Gregor Robertson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The interactive digital media and visual effects sectors are a major part of Vancouver's economy, employing more than 25,000 employees in 1300 companies;
2. There are a number of internationally recognized post-secondary institutions in Vancouver that produce highly skilled graduates for these sectors, which supports local hiring and a robust regional workforce that makes up a significant component of Vancouver's global advantage;
3. The Province of British Columbia has established an effective tax credit policy that helps to attract companies in some digital media sectors, and has worked with the Government of Canada to lead changes in immigration policy that has contributed to the establishment of Vancouver as one of the top three global clusters in the world, behind only London and Los Angeles;
4. Vancouver has an Economic Action Strategy that has made job creation and investment attraction an explicit priority in sectors like interactive digital media and visual effects, and has successfully supported the creation of over 1,000 jobs in the last three years alone in this industry;
5. Vancouver is gaining strength and growing in some segments of the interactive digital media sectors, like visual effects and animation, but is seeing a rapid decline in other segments like console gaming;

6. Under the Ontario Interactive Media Tax Credit, video game developers are eligible to receive up to a 37.5 per cent tax credit with additional stacked incentives, compared to the 17.5 per cent offered by BC's Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit, which limits stackable incentives;
7. These strategies and incentive policies in other jurisdictions, such as Ontario and Quebec, have influenced the decisions of gaming companies to leave Vancouver, dropping the region's ranking from Number 1 to Number 3 over the past 3 years;
8. The departure of these companies and the talent associated with them has implications on the broader talent pool for Interactive Digital Media and screen-based sectors that could eventually threaten the stability of the entire cluster;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- A. THAT the Mayor write to the Premier and the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, encouraging them to explore options to close the gap with the incentive programs in other Canadian provinces in order to protect these important BC sectors which are becoming vulnerable to inter-provincial poaching.
- B. THAT the Mayor write to the Federal Minister of Industry to promote the idea of a national interactive digital media strategy that would strengthen the entire country's cluster in these sectors, as opposed to the current approach which only serves to weaken our global competitiveness.
- C. THAT the Mayor, as Chair of the Vancouver Economic Commission (VEC), ask the VEC to proactively pursue solutions that can resolve the challenges facing the digital media sector by working with Vancouver's industry leaders, and report back to Council.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Ball

THAT the following be added as D

THAT staff be instructed to arrange public meetings with industry stakeholders in order to explore innovative ways that the City can foster healthy growth in the digital media sector.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Mayor Robertson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT the Vancouver Economic Commission be instructed to provide advice and actions on next steps on implementation to arrange public meetings with industry stakeholders in order to explore innovative ways that the City can foster healthy growth in the digital media sector.

CARRIED
(Councillors Affleck and Ball opposed)

The amendment having been referred, the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Consumer Fireworks Sales

At its meeting on July 24, 2012, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on July 25, 2012, in order to hear from speakers.

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During the hearing of speakers at 5:58 pm, it was

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT, under Section 6.8 of the Procedure By-law, the Committee suspend Section 2.3(c) of the Procedure By-law in order to extend the length of the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting to complete all items on the agenda.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

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The Committee heard from five speakers in support of the recommendation and one speaker in opposition to the recommendation and expressed concerns with regards to noise.

MOVED by Councillor Louie
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver has a long tradition of outdoor celebrations with fireworks displays including consumer fireworks;

2. The City of Vancouver has made significant improvements in the control and sales of consumer fireworks for the Halloween period through banning the sale of noise making devices and the requirement of a permit for purchase and discharge as set out in Vancouver Fire By-Law Section 5.8.2;
3. The City of Vancouver has a multicultural population who have special celebrations throughout the year, such as Chinese/Lunar New Year, Vaisakhi, Canada Day, BC Day, and New Years;
4. Many other jurisdictions across Canada have allowed the sale and discharge of Consumer Fireworks including Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Brampton and Toronto;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council instruct staff to explore and report back to City Council with recommendations for additional but limited periods of consumer fireworks sales and discharge similar to the current allowance in place for Halloween, including but not limited to supervision and limited locations and hours of fireworks discharge.

CARRIED
(Councillors Affleck and Ball opposed)
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

The Committee adjourned at 6:53 pm

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

JULY 25, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at 6:54 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Ball
Councillor George Affleck
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Geoff Meggs
Councillor Andrea Reimer
Councillor Tim Stevenson
Councillor Tony Tang

ABSENT Mayor Gregor Robertson

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Financial Services Group

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment
July 25, 2012

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment. Its items of business included:

1. Capital Grant and Lease Extension for an Expanded Low Barrier Women Shelter: St. James Community Service Society - 329 and 333 Powell Street
2. Capital Grant and MOU for a Permanent Aboriginal Shelter at 946 and 950 Main Street
3. Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan and Economic Revitalization Strategy
4. Oakridge Centre Redevelopment
5. Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
6. Consumer Fireworks Sales
7. Support Vancouver's Digital Media Sector

Items 1 - 7

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment at its meeting of July 25, 2012, as contained in items 1 to 7, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Tang

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 Carr

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Affleck
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 6:55 pm.

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