

## MOTION

### 10. Affordable Home Ownership and New Housing Options for Families

At the Regular Council meeting on June 23, 2015, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on June 24, 2015, to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Ball

#### WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver has a long history of family-centred planning and policies and strives to be a city with healthy, thriving children and families: "A city everyone can call home";
2. The Vancouver real estate market has become unaffordable for many people, including individuals, young families and seniors;
3. Many people who want to own a home find they must leave the City of Vancouver to find affordable homes they can purchase, especially individuals under the age of 35 years who find they simply cannot afford to purchase a home in Vancouver;
4. The City of Vancouver has many programs and policies that address core need and social housing, typically owned and operated by non-profit organizations;
5. The City of Vancouver collects Development Cost Levies (DCL) that can be used to provide affordable housing, and the City also enables non-profit organizations to purchase units from developers by allowing for a partial waiver of DCL's or for increased density;
6. City policies provide incentives for developers to build rental housing. For example, on May 27, 2015 the City Council approved a policy, "Enhancing Housing for Families: Amendments to the Vancouver Development Cost Levy By-law and the Area Specific Development Cost Levy By-Law regarding For-Profit Affordable Rental Housing," which allows for a partial or full DCL waiver for 100 percent rental projects, including affordable rentals;
7. The City's Chief Housing Officer and the City's Director of Housing Policy and Projects presented a report to Council at the Tuesday, June 9, 2015, Regular Council meeting entitled "Making Room for Children and Families: Report Back on Families in Vancouver";
8. There are currently no City-led initiatives or programs in the City of Vancouver to encourage Affordable Home Ownership, nor any specific policies or goals relating to Affordable Home Ownership units in the City of Vancouver;
9. Municipalities in the Metro Vancouver region have implemented policies and programs to encourage different types of housing options, including micro suites, co-ops and townhomes, in the interest of providing a variety of affordable housing options for individuals and families.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to explore the establishment of a program for Affordable Home Ownership in the City of Vancouver, with policies and incentives that can best achieve this new affordable housing objective.
- B. THAT staff report back to Council on any actions necessary, including any changes required to the Vancouver Charter, to implement an Affordable Home Ownership program and related policies.
- C. THAT staff also explore different types and forms of housing to achieve Affordable Home Ownership, such as micro units and co-op housing, and programs to increase Vancouver's stock of townhomes.

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