

MOTION ON NOTICE

6. DCL Waiver Independent Third Party Inquiry

MOVER: Councillor Affleck

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. It has recently come to the attention of Vancouver City Council that a mixed strata condominium / rental housing project on Richards Street in downtown Vancouver received a \$1.5 million Development Cost Levy (DCL) waiver under a City of Vancouver's incentive program for which it did not qualify;
2. The City Manager has publicly acknowledged that an error has occurred and has apparently attributed it to a miscommunication amongst City staff;
3. Public confidence and trust are central to the legitimacy, integrity, and proper functioning and operation of governments including municipal governments;
4. On Friday, December 2, 2016, the City Manager provided Mayor and Council with an update on the matter of this DCL waiver and advised that the City has received repayment of the \$1.5 million DCL in question;
5. The City's Chief Risk Officer is conducting an internal review of the circumstances that led to the waiver, to check other DCL waivers granted by the City, and to outline a plan to ensure that the City's process for administering DCL waivers is sound;
6. Public confidence and trust in the City of Vancouver's systems and operations may have been negatively impacted by the erroneous granting of a \$1.5 million DCL waiver to a development project that did not qualify;
7. The City of Vancouver should be committed to the principles of good governance, which include transparency, accountability, and openness.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and Council, in the interest of transparency, accountability, and openness, direct staff to make recommendations for an independent third party inquiry into the granting of a \$1.5 million Development Cost Levy (DCL) waiver to a mixed strata condominium / rental housing project, which did not qualify for the waiver. The scope of the inquiry should also include a review of all similar waivers and negotiated contributions since 2008.

* * * * *