

MOTION

10. City of Vancouver-Led Intergovernmental Task Force to Combat Homelessness and Increase Supply of Non-Market Housing in Vancouver

At the Regular Council meeting on January 24, 2017, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on January 25, 2017, to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova
SECONDED by Councillor Ball

WHEREAS

1. The Mayor and Vision Vancouver Councillors campaigned on a promise to end street homelessness in Vancouver by 2015;
2. Despite the Mayor's Task Force on Affordable Housing releasing their final report in September 2012, the homeless population in the City of Vancouver has continually increased over the past five years;
3. During extreme weather, temporary shelters and warming centres have been funded and organized by the City of Vancouver. These temporary shelters are necessary; however, are not considered good long term solutions to solving homelessness;
4. Housing is a responsibility shared by federal, provincial and municipal governments;
5. In February 2016, Minister Jean-Yves Duclos announced the federal government's commitment to \$150 million for affordable housing in BC, including \$50.9 million to address the increasing demand for repairs as social housing units age;
6. In June 2016, the Government of Canada and the Province of B.C. announced the 2016 Social Infrastructure Fund Agreement. Under this agreement the Government of Canada will contribute \$150 million and the Province of B.C. will contribute \$63 million over a two year period (April 2016- March 2018);
7. The Social Infrastructure Fund agreement includes a commitment by both the federal government and the provincial government (BC Housing) to each contribute \$63 million towards new construction or renovations to help more individuals and families in need access affordable housing;
8. BC Housing continually makes investments in housing in Vancouver, especially in the Downtown Eastside, Vancouver's most vulnerable neighbourhood.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council establish an Intergovernmental Task Force, including representatives from the federal and provincial governments, to address Vancouver's non-market housing shortage and to provide advice to the Mayor and Council, with the terms of reference attached as Appendix A.

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Appendix A

Terms of Reference

This committee is a type D committee which will provide a report to Mayor and Council upon completion.

The Committee will be Co-chaired by one senior staff representative from the City of Vancouver, the Province of BC and the Federal Government. External experts can be appointed by the three committee chairs.

The Committee will provide recommendations to Mayor and Council actions that can be taken to encourage better intergovernmental delivery of non-market housing.

The scope of the committee's work will include:

- Examining the conditions that exist in Vancouver that have contributed to Vancouver's issues surrounding housing and homelessness;
- A review of Vancouver's Affordable Housing Agency;
- Reviewing innovations from other cities in financial and equity models that could facilitate the creation of affordable housing;
- Soliciting public and stakeholder input on meeting the affordable housing challenge.

Composition

The Committee will be a type D committee.

The three Co-Chairs will select experts from the public based on submissions received to the City Clerk's office by April 30, 2017. Committee members will be chosen based on their expertise in the areas of non-market housing development, social planning, mental health, finance, real estate, architecture and design, academia, policy, non-market housing development, land use planning.

One Councillor from each political party represented in Council will act as liaisons to the committee.

All members of Council will be expected to participate in the working groups at the request of the Co-Chairs.

Timeline

The Committee will provide an interim report by June 2018.

Staff Support

The City Manager will be responsible for allocating staff resources as appropriate.

Budget

The City Manager will provide and assess resources to support the Committee and report back to Mayor and Council on an anticipated budget.

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