

Heritage Vancouver

s.22(1) Personal and Confidential

September 19 2017

City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

Re: Creation of a Heritage Conservation Fund as a part of the Heritage Density Bank update

Dear Mayor and Council

We are writing on behalf of our membership to express our support for the proposed creation of a Heritage Conservation Fund as a part of the Heritage Density Bank update process. We believe the Heritage Density Bank and density transfer system is an effective part of the City's policy toolbox to support heritage-related placemaking and heritage building conservation efforts.

We support the creation of a Heritage Conservation Fund and strongly encourage that the City ensure that the use of the heritage fund is transparent, fully independent of other city policies and is focused on supporting heritage projects and initiatives (including those unrelated to a particular re-zoning or development permit). We encourage the City to consider both tangible and intangible heritage assets/practices as potential recipients of the Heritage Conservation Fund in line with a contemporary understanding of and approach to heritage. We would be pleased to be a part of a technical advisory group to help review and determine the process for fund distribution.


We would also like to reiterate our previous position as outlined in letters submitted October 3 2016, September 23 2013 and April 21 2010. We suggest the following additional policy measures that might expand and increase the effectiveness of the Heritage Amenity Density Bank:

1. Expand use of the Transfer of Density tool to areas beyond the City's Central Area and Broadway Corridor (C3A zones).
2. Continue an annual review of the absorption target and the effectiveness of the proposed measures.

We are pleased to see that this report is supported by the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability and we urge council to give their full support to it as well. The Heritage Amenity Bank and the Transfer of Density has been a very effective tool in conserving Vancouver's Heritage buildings. Any efforts to rebalance the accounts and reopen the density bank are supported as well as the establishment of an effective, transparent, fully funded Heritage Conservation Fund.

Respectfully submitted

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Javier Campos
President, Heritage Vancouver Society