



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
ON POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

JANUARY 17, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, at 9:33 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Andrea Reimer, Chair
Mayor Gregor Robertson*
Councillor George Affleck*
Councillor Hector Bremner
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Melissa De Genova*
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Tim Stevenson*

ABSENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball, Vice-Chair (Medical Leave)
Councillor Kerry Jang (Leave of Absence)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk
Katrina Leckovic, Deputy City Clerk
Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

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VARY AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the order of the agenda be varied to deal with Item 6 at 1:00 pm.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Councillor Stevenson and Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)*

Note: For ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in numerical order.

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1. Presentation - Staff Update on Opioid Crisis - New Provincial Response and Key Initiatives from Health Partners

Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy and Projects, Dr. Patricia Daly, Executive Lead of the Provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre, Vice-President of Public Health and Chief Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Coastal Health, Dr. Mark Tyndall, Executive Director, BC Centre for Disease Control and Deputy Provincial Health Officer, and Chief Darrell Reid, Fire and Rescue Services provided updates on the opioid crisis and responded to questions.

2. Presentation - Vancouver's Mobility Future: "Automating" Policy into Sustainable Results

REFFERAL MOVED by Councillor De Genova
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Item 2 - "Presentation - Vancouver's Mobility Future: "Automating" Policy into Sustainable Results", be referred to a future Council meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Affleck absent for the vote)

**3. Cambie Bridge Interim Active Transportation Improvements
January 8, 2018**

Engineering Services staff provided a presentation and responded to questions.

The Committee heard from three speakers in support of the recommendations, some of whom offered additional suggestions.

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VARY AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the order of the agenda be varied to postpone discussion and decision on Item 3 until after Item 6, then consider Items 7, 4, 5 and 8, in that order.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY**

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At 11:59 am, it was

MOVED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the meeting be extended to complete the business on the agenda.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

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The Committee recessed at 12:00 noon and reconvened at 12:42 pm.

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Following the recess, Engineering Services staff responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the interim active transportation improvements to the Cambie Street Bridge as generally described in the Administrative Report dated January 8, 2018, entitled "Cambie Bridge Interim Active Transportation Improvements".
- B. THAT Council direct staff to execute actions as described in the Administrative Report dated January 8, 2018, entitled "Cambie Bridge Interim Active Transportation Improvements", within the current approved Capital Budget (Annual Capital Expenditure Budget and Multi-Year Capital Project Budget) for Active Transportation Corridors and Spot Improvements, to monitor the changes brought by the above-noted report; and to provide a memorandum reporting back to Council on outcomes in 2019.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Affleck

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council place a moratorium on any reallocation of existing Cambie Street Bridge road space and instead direct staff to develop, budget, consult and present to Council an innovative and safe False Creek cyclist crossing near to Cambie Street, including, but not limited to, the possibility of a free-standing bike bridge or an aesthetically and functionally viable addition to the existing bridge, such as a cantilevered path.

- B. THAT Vancouver City Council direct City staff to explore funding opportunities (for general infrastructure and/or for cycling infrastructure) through the Federal and Provincial governments, as well as funding opportunities from other appropriate sources such as foundations and/or corporate sponsorships, any and all of which could add financially to the estimated \$600,000 currently allocated to the bike lane project in the 2018 Active Transportation Corridors and Spot Improvements Multi-Year Capital Project Budget.

lost

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*At 1:04 pm the Committee postponed completion of Item 3 and began Item 6.
The Committee returned to Item 3 at 3:35 pm.*

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Following the completion of Item 6, the Committee resumed debate on Councillor Affleck's amendment related to Item 3.

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At 3:47 pm, during debate on the motion, Councillor Louie rose on a point of order, submitting that Councillor De Genova's debate was irrelevant to the subject matter of this item. The Chair declined Councillor Louie's point of order and ruled that Councillor De Genova could continue with her line of debate.

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At 3:54 pm, during debate on the motion, Councillor De Genova rose on a point of order, submitting that under Section 5.2 (g) of the Procedure By-law, Councillor Louie had inappropriately questioned her motives. The Chair ruled in support of Councillor De Genova's point of order.

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At 4:02 pm, during debate on the motion, Councillor De Genova rose on a point of order, submitting that under Section 5.2 (f) of the Procedure By-law, Mayor Robertson had made an allegation that reflected upon the character of some of various Councillors. The Chair ruled in support of Councillor De Genova's point of order.

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Following debate, the amendment was put and LOST with Councillors Carr, Deal, Louie, Reimer, Stevenson and Mayor Robertson opposed (Vote No. 02530).

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED with Councillors Affleck, Bremner and De Genova opposed (Vote No. 02531).

**4. Updates to the Payment-in-Lieu Parking Program
January 4, 2018**

Engineering Services staff responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council direct staff to review the payment-in-lieu fee schedule and report back to Council with information on how these fees impact development and housing costs, that ultimately are passed onto the market.
- B. THAT industry leaders be consulted before any fee increase is recommended for the Payment-in-lieu fee per parking space.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to review the impacts of revising the general parking minimum requirement, not including accessible parking, conditions and options, and provide cost-benefit analysis in comparison to PIL.

not put

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the payment-in-lieu fee per parking space be increased from \$20,200 to \$24,700;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law to amend the Parking By-law generally in accordance with Appendix C of the Administrative Report dated January 4, 2018, entitled " Updates to the Payment-in-Lieu Parking Program".

- B. THAT payment-in-lieu for 132 parking spaces be assigned as noted in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated January 4, 2018, entitled " Updates to the Payment-in-Lieu Parking Program", and that the monies received, plus accrued interest be transferred from the Payment-In-Lieu: Off Street parking account, to the Parking Site Reserve.
- C. THAT the payment-in-lieu fee per parking space be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes in construction costs.

CARRIED

(Councillors Affleck, Bremner and De Genova opposed) (Vote No. 02533)

**5. 8901 Stanley Park Drive - Stanley Park Brewpub - Liquor Primary Licence and
Outdoor Patio Application
December 22, 2017**

Development, Buildings and Licensing staff provided an overview of the report and responded to questions.

The Committee heard from two speakers in support and ten speakers in opposition to the recommendations. One speaker spoke to other matters related to the application.

Vancouver Police Department, Parks and Recreation, and Development, Buildings and Licensing staff responded to additional questions.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council, having considered the opinion of local area residents and business operators as determined by neighbourhood notification, installation of site sign, consideration of noise impacts, and relevant Council policy as outlined in in the Administrative Report dated December 22, 2017, entitled "8901 Stanley Park Drive - Stanley Park Brewpub - Liquor Primary Licence and Outdoor Patio Application", endorse the request by RTD Canada Inc. (Stanley Park Brewpub) for a 50 person Liquor Primary Licence with an adjoining 53 person patio (Liquor Establishment Class 1 - Brewpub), located at 8901 Stanley Park Drive (former Fish House Restaurant location) subject to:

- i. A maximum interior capacity of 50 persons with an adjoining 53 person patio;
- ii. Hours of operation, for the first six months, limited to 11 am to 11 pm, seven days a week; after which time the following hours may be considered which are limited to 11 am to 12 am, Monday to Friday and 9 am to 12 am, Saturday and Sunday;
- iii. The outdoor patio ceasing all liquor service and being vacated by 10 pm nightly, for the first six months; after which time the hours of 11 pm may be considered;
- iv. No music or entertainment permitted on the patio;
- v. Having a Time-Limited Development Permit;
- vi. An acoustic report to be submitted certifying that the establishment meets Noise Control By-law requirements;
- vii. Food service to be provided while the establishment is operating as well as on the patio when open; and
- viii. Signing a Good Neighbour Agreement with the City prior to business licence issuance.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Reimer

THAT the following be added as B:

- B. THAT a Community Liaison Committee be a requirement of the Good Neighbour Agreement associated with the application for a 50 person Liquor Primary Licence with an adjoining 53 person patio (Liquor Establishment Class 1 - Brewpub), located at 8901 Stanley Park Drive (Stanley Park Brewpub).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02535)
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

The Committee agreed to separate components of the motion.

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED with Councillor Carr opposed to A and Mayor Robertson absent for the vote (Vote Nos. 02536 and 02537).

FINAL MOTION AS ADOPTED

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council, having considered the opinion of local area residents and business operators as determined by neighbourhood notification, installation of site sign, consideration of noise impacts, and relevant Council policy as outlined in the Administrative Report dated December 22, 2017, entitled "8901 Stanley Park Drive - Stanley Park Brewpub - Liquor Primary Licence and Outdoor Patio Application", endorse the request by RTD Canada Inc. (Stanley Park Brewpub) for a 50 person Liquor Primary Licence with an adjoining 53 person patio (Liquor Establishment Class 1 - Brewpub), located at 8901 Stanley Park Drive (former Fish House Restaurant location) subject to:
 - i. A maximum interior capacity of 50 persons with an adjoining 53 person patio;
 - ii. Hours of operation, for the first six months, limited to 11 am to 11 pm, seven days a week; after which time the following hours may be considered which are limited to 11 am to 12 am, Monday to Friday and 9 am to 12 am, Saturday and Sunday;
 - iii. The outdoor patio ceasing all liquor service and being vacated by 10 pm nightly, for the first six months; after which time the hours of 11 pm may be considered;
 - iv. No music or entertainment permitted on the patio;
 - v. Having a Time-Limited Development Permit;
 - vi. An acoustic report to be submitted certifying that the establishment meets Noise Control By-law requirements;
 - vii. Food service to be provided while the establishment is operating as well as on the patio when open; and
 - viii. Signing a Good Neighbour Agreement with the City prior to business licence issuance.

- B. THAT a Community Liaison Committee be a requirement of the Good Neighbour Agreement associated with the application for a 50 person Liquor Primary Licence with an adjoining 53 person patio (Liquor Establishment Class 1 - Brewpub), located at 8901 Stanley Park Drive (Stanley Park Brewpub).

6. Gender Equality Update October 24, 2017

At the Regular Council meeting on January 16, 2018, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on January 17, 2018, to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from 15 speakers in support of the recommendations.

Human Resources and Social Policy and Projects staff responded to questions.

MOVED by Mayor Robertson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council receive the review of the City's 2005 Gender Equality Strategy, (attached as Appendix A to the Administrative Report dated October 24, 2017, entitled "Gender Equality Update"), for information.
- B. THAT Council approve the updated strategy entitled "Vancouver: A City for All Women, Women's Equity Strategy 2018 - 2028", with a focus on Phase 1 Actions (attached as Appendix B to the Administrative Report dated October 24, 2017, entitled "Gender Equality Update").
- C. THAT Council direct staff to provide a progress report in 2019 and outline next phase actions, in consultation with the Women's Advisory Committee.
- D. THAT Council refer the Administrative Report dated October 24, 2017, entitled "Gender Equality Update", to the Vancouver Public Library Board and the Vancouver Police Department Board for information and to request their support for the updated strategy.

amended

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At 2:47 pm Councillor De Genova declared Conflict of Interest on the amendment set out below, as her husband works for the Vancouver Police Department and is currently on parental leave. She left the room and returned at 2:51 pm.

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AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Bremner

THAT the motion be amended to add the following at the end:

- E. THAT staff consider any material referred to them in the motion moved by Councillor Ball at the Regular Council meeting on November 28, 2017, entitled "Equitable Parental Leave at the City of Vancouver", both through the lens of, and in the spirit of, incorporating any future recommendations into "Vancouver: A City for All Women, Women's Equity Strategy 2018-2028", if and when Council chooses to accept staff recommendations on the subject matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02526)
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote due to Conflict of Interest)

The Committee agreed to separate the vote on components of the amended motion.

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Councillor De Genova absent for E due to Conflict of Interest (Vote Nos. 02527 and 02528).

FINAL MOTION AS ADOPTED

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council receive the review of the City's 2005 Gender Equality Strategy, (attached as Appendix A to the Administrative Report dated October 24, 2017, entitled "Gender Equality Update"), for information.
- B. THAT Council approve the updated strategy entitled "Vancouver: A City for All Women, Women's Equity Strategy 2018 - 2028", with a focus on Phase 1 Actions (attached as Appendix B to the Administrative Report dated October 24, 2017, entitled "Gender Equality Update").
- C. THAT Council direct staff to provide a progress report in 2019 and outline next phase actions, in consultation with the Women's Advisory Committee.
- D. THAT Council refer to the Administrative Report dated October 24, 2017, entitled "Gender Equality Update", to the Vancouver Public Library Board and the Vancouver Police Department Board for information and to request their support for the updated strategy.
- E. THAT staff consider any material referred to them in the motion moved by Councillor Ball at the Regular Council meeting on November 28, 2017, entitled "Equitable Parental Leave at the City of Vancouver", both through the lens of, and in the spirit of, incorporating any future recommendations into "Vancouver: A City for All Women, Women's Equity Strategy 2018-2028", if and when Council chooses to accept staff recommendations on the subject matter.

7. Application for Payment-in-Lieu of Parking at 137 Keefer Street

At the Regular Council meeting on January 16, 2018, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on January 17, 2018, to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from one speaker in opposition to the recommendations.

The General Manager of Engineering Services responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve in principle the offer of payment-in-lieu in the amount of \$222,200 for the waiver of one commercial and 10 residential parking spaces required by Section 4.1.2 of the Parking By-law for the development application at 137 Keefer Street.
- B. THAT Council direct the payment of \$202,000 into the Pay-in-Lieu Parking Reserve: Off-Street Parking, and the payment of \$20,200 into the Pay-in-Lieu Parking Reserve: Green Transportation.

- C. THAT the Director of Legal Services be requested to bring forward a By-law to amend Schedule A of the Parking By-law pursuant to Section 4.12.5 to effect this waiver.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02532)
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

8. Creating Optimal Conditions for Small Businesses to Succeed and Thrive in the City of Vancouver

At the Regular Council meeting on January 16, 2018, Vancouver City Council referred the motion set out below to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on January 17, 2018, to hear from speakers.

The motion below contains amendments to the original Motion on Notice, which were accepted by the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Affleck
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Small businesses make up 95 per cent of all businesses in Vancouver and are the backbone, and an important driver, of Vancouver's local economy, fostering local entrepreneurship and creating jobs;
2. The central mission of Vancouver City Council and the City of Vancouver is to create a great city of communities, a city that cares about its people, the environment, and the opportunities to live, work, and prosper;
3. In June 2013, Mayor Gregor Robertson presented a motion to Council (title: "Support Local Small Businesses") - carried unanimously at the Tuesday, June 25, 2013 Regular Council Meeting - in which he called for the Vancouver Economic Commission to be asked "to work with City staff, Vancouver BIAs and the Vancouver Board of Trade to recommend immediate and long-term actions the City can take to support the retention and growth of locally owned small businesses, as well as identify opportunities to expedite recommendations within the Economic Action Strategy", and for the Vancouver Economic Commission to "report back to Council with a proposed scope of work, including involvement with the local small business community, by September 2013.";
4. Mayor Gregor Robertson's June 2013 motion (title: "Support Local Small Businesses") noted the following points:
 - Small, locally owned businesses are a crucial component of economic activity and job creation in Vancouver.

- Businesses comprised of 1-4 employees make up 58% of all businesses in Vancouver, businesses with 5-9 employees make up 18%, and businesses with 10-19 employees make up 11%.
 - The retention and expansion of small, local businesses is a priority for Vancouver within the Vancouver Economic Action Strategy.
 - Small businesses are an integral part of the neighbourhood character in Vancouver's commercial areas.
 - A wide variety of factors can impact small businesses, such as affordability, access to space, taxes and regulation, development pressures, transportation issues, and commercial leases.
 - The City has taken a number of steps to support small business and enable a competitive economic climate, such as moving towards a mobile business license, reducing the property tax burden for businesses as recommended by the Property Tax Policy Review Commission, reducing the number of business license categories from 636 to less than 200, and reducing the City's net debt by \$151.4 million in 2012.
5. Similarly, in November 2010, Councillors Woodsworth and Cadman called for Vancouver City Council "to establish a 'one stop shop' to provide a single destination for services and support for small businesses in Vancouver, including but not limited to advice, referrals, and permits";
 6. At the Thursday, November 4, 2010 Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets, Councillor Deal moved to refer Councillor Woodsworth's November 2010 motion back to staff as part of "the Vancouver Service Review", and to have it noted that "Council reaffirms its commitment to small business....";
 7. On Thursday, February 2, 2017, the City of Vancouver launched a "Commercial Renovation Centre" in response to various needs identified by the business community;
 8. The "Commercial Renovation Centre" aims to help new business owners navigate the process for licensing a small business or renovating a commercial tenant space by providing hands-on support related to regulations, permits and procedures;
 9. Despite the City of Vancouver's many efforts over the past decade to support and retain small businesses, there are numerous indications that the city's small business sector is experiencing significant stress related to widespread unaffordability and high property taxes, leading to the closure of numerous long-time Vancouver businesses (for example, West End kitchenware store, Chocolate Mousse, which will reportedly close in January 2019 after more than 30 years due to an almost 93 per cent jump in property taxes after the building's assessed value more than tripled from \$16 million to \$52 million);

10. Councillor Louie (as Vision Vancouver's point person on city taxes and finances), is quoted in a recent Vancouver Sun article as stating, "What we have been focusing on is trying to figure out a way to support small business owners," and expressed his view that "punishing triple-net lease agreements made between small business owners and property owners", set against sky-high property assessments, are the "culprit" behind recent and widely anticipated future retail business closures;
11. Actions to date by the City of Vancouver to support the city's small business community - the backbone of Vancouver's local economy - have not been fully effective in achieving Council's small business policy objectives;
12. Vancouver City Council has established numerous agencies, boards, and committees that focus on particular subjects that have an impact on the City of Vancouver and its people, thereby harnessing the specialized expertise of the respective members of these bodies to advise Council and City staff; advisory bodies which variously include, among others:
 - Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee
 - LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee
 - Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee
 - Renters Advisory Committee
 - Seniors' Advisory Committee
 - Trans, Gender Diverse and Two-Spirit Inclusion Advisory Committee
 - Urban Aboriginal Peoples Advisory Committee
 - Vancouver Food Policy Council
 - Active Transportation Policy Council
 - Arts and Culture Policy Council
 - Public Art Committee
 - Mayor's Engaged City Task Force
 - Mayor's Task Force on Housing Affordability
 - Mayor's Task Force on Mental Health and Addictions

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council direct City staff to conduct a systematic and comprehensive review of all existing City of Vancouver programs and policies designed to support and retain local small business and report back to Council within 90 days with recommendations for policies and strategies the City can implement, and actions that can be taken by the City, to create more optimal conditions for small businesses to succeed and thrive in the City of Vancouver, including, but not limited to, the creation of a Small Business Retention Program which could, among other potential actions, offer targeted property tax reductions to commercial property owners to help retain existing small business tenants.

- B. THAT Vancouver City Council establish a Small Business Advisory Committee (not type A or B) with a mandate to advise staff and City Council on strategic priorities relating to small business in Vancouver;

FURTHER THAT the Small Business Advisory Committee terms of reference shall include, but not be limited to:

- Provide input to City Council and staff about issues of concern to the city's small business community.
- Consider any matters which may be referred to the Advisory Committee Council by Council or staff.
- Take positions on policy initiatives from other levels of government within the mandate of the Advisory Committee.
- Work co-operatively with other agencies whose activities affect constituent small business communities, including initiating and developing relevant projects.
- Act as a resource for staff coordinating public involvement processes and civic events.
- Exchange information with constituent small business communities and the general public about relevant programs and issues of interest.
- Engage in outreach to disseminate information and encourage participation from constituent small business communities.
- Produce an annual work plan with specific objectives by no later than April of each year, in consultation with Council and staff liaisons, for distribution to Council and civic departments for information.
- Submit an annual report to Council describing the Advisory Committee's accomplishments for the year, including reference to each objective set out in the work plan and any arising issues to which the Advisory Committee has responded.

amended

The Committee heard from four speakers in support of the motion.

The City Manager responded to questions.

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At 9:54 pm it was,

MOVED by Councillor Bremner

THAT the meeting be extended beyond 10:00 pm to complete all item of business.

*LOST HAVING NOT RECEIVED
THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Councillor Louie opposed)*

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The Committee recessed at 9:55 pm and reconvened at 9:57 pm.

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At 9:57 pm it was,

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT the meeting be extended beyond 10:00 pm to complete all items of business.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

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AMENDMENT MOVED by Mayor Robertson

THAT the first paragraph of B be struck and replaced with the following:

- B. THAT staff report back to Council within 90 days with recommendations for establishing a small business advisory body or roundtable, with proposed structure and terms of reference, to advise City Council on strategic priorities to support small business in Vancouver, including the recommendations and actions brought forward in the review in A above.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02538)

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 02539)

FINAL MOTION AS ADOPTED

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Small businesses make up 95 per cent of all businesses in Vancouver and are the backbone, and an important driver, of Vancouver's local economy, fostering local entrepreneurship and creating jobs;
2. The central mission of Vancouver City Council and the City of Vancouver is to create a great city of communities, a city that cares about its people, the environment, and the opportunities to live, work, and prosper;
3. In June 2013, Mayor Gregor Robertson presented a motion to Council (title: "Support Local Small Businesses") - carried unanimously at the Tuesday, June 25, 2013 Regular Council Meeting - in which he called for the Vancouver Economic Commission to be asked "to work with City staff, Vancouver BIAs and the Vancouver Board of Trade to recommend immediate and long-term actions the City can take to support the retention and growth of locally owned small businesses, as well as identify opportunities to expedite recommendations within the Economic Action Strategy", and for the Vancouver Economic Commission to "report back to Council with a proposed scope of work, including involvement with the local small business community, by September 2013.";
4. Mayor Gregor Robertson's June 2013 motion (title: "Support Local Small Businesses") noted the following points:
 - Small, locally owned businesses are a crucial component of economic activity and job creation in Vancouver.
 - Businesses comprised of 1-4 employees make up 58% of all businesses in Vancouver, businesses with 5-9 employees make up 18%, and businesses with 10-19 employees make up 11%.
 - The retention and expansion of small, local businesses is a priority for Vancouver within the Vancouver Economic Action Strategy.
 - Small businesses are an integral part of the neighbourhood character in Vancouver's commercial areas.
 - A wide variety of factors can impact small businesses, such as affordability, access to space, taxes and regulation, development pressures, transportation issues, and commercial leases.

- The City has taken a number of steps to support small business and enable a competitive economic climate, such as moving towards a mobile business license, reducing the property tax burden for businesses as recommended by the Property Tax Policy Review Commission, reducing the number of business license categories from 636 to less than 200, and reducing the City's net debt by \$151.4 million in 2012.
5. Similarly, in November 2010, Councillors Woodsworth and Cadman called for Vancouver City Council "to establish a 'one stop shop' to provide a single destination for services and support for small businesses in Vancouver, including but not limited to advice, referrals, and permits";
 6. At the Thursday, November 4, 2010 Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets, Councillor Deal moved to refer Councillor Woodsworth's November 2010 motion back to staff as part of "the Vancouver Service Review", and to have it noted that "Council reaffirms its commitment to small business....";
 7. On Thursday, February 2, 2017, the City of Vancouver launched a "Commercial Renovation Centre" in response to various needs identified by the business community;
 8. The "Commercial Renovation Centre" aims to help new business owners navigate the process for licensing a small business or renovating a commercial tenant space by providing hands-on support related to regulations, permits and procedures;
 9. Despite the City of Vancouver's many efforts over the past decade to support and retain small businesses, there are numerous indications that the city's small business sector is experiencing significant stress related to widespread unaffordability and high property taxes, leading to the closure of numerous long-time Vancouver businesses (for example, West End kitchenware store, Chocolate Mousse, which will reportedly close in January 2019 after more than 30 years due to an almost 93 per cent jump in property taxes after the building's assessed value more than tripled from \$16 million to \$52 million);
 10. Councillor Louie (as Vision Vancouver's point person on city taxes and finances), is quoted in a recent Vancouver Sun article as stating, "What we have been focusing on is trying to figure out a way to support small business owners," and expressed his view that "punishing triple-net lease agreements made between small business owners and property owners", set against sky-high property assessments, are the "culprit" behind recent and widely anticipated future retail business closures;
 11. Actions to date by the City of Vancouver to support the city's small business community - the backbone of Vancouver's local economy - have not been fully effective in achieving Council's small business policy objectives;

12. Vancouver City Council has established numerous agencies, boards, and committees that focus on particular subjects that have an impact on the City of Vancouver and its people, thereby harnessing the specialized expertise of the respective members of these bodies to advise Council and City staff, advisory bodies which variously include, among others:
- Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee
 - LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee
 - Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee
 - Renters Advisory Committee
 - Seniors' Advisory Committee
 - Trans, Gender Diverse and Two-Spirit Inclusion Advisory Committee
 - Urban Aboriginal Peoples Advisory Committee
 - Vancouver Food Policy Council
 - Active Transportation Policy Council
 - Arts and Culture Policy Council
 - Public Art Committee
 - Mayor's Engaged City Task Force
 - Mayor's Task Force on Housing Affordability
 - Mayor's Task Force on Mental Health and Addictions

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council direct City staff to conduct a systematic and comprehensive review of all existing City of Vancouver programs and policies designed to support and retain local small business and report back to Council within 90 days with recommendations for policies and strategies the City can implement, and actions that can be taken by the City, to create more optimal conditions for small businesses to succeed and thrive in the City of Vancouver, including, but not limited to, the creation of a Small Business Retention Program which could, among other potential actions, offer targeted property tax reductions to commercial property owners to help retain existing small business tenants.
- B. THAT staff report back to Council within 90 days with recommendations for establishing a small business advisory body or roundtable, with proposed structure and terms of reference, to advise City Council on strategic priorities to support small business in Vancouver, including the recommendations and actions brought forward in the review in A above.

FURTHER THAT the Small Business Advisory Committee terms of reference shall include, but not be limited to:

- Provide input to City Council and staff about issues of concern to the city's small business community.
- Consider any matters which may be referred to the Advisory Committee by Council or staff.
- Take positions on policy initiatives from other levels of government within the mandate of the Advisory Committee.

- Work co-operatively with other agencies whose activities affect constituent small business communities, including initiating and developing relevant projects.
- Act as a resource for staff coordinating public involvement processes and civic events.
- Exchange information with constituent small business communities and the general public about relevant programs and issues of interest.
- Engage in outreach to disseminate information and encourage participation from constituent small business communities.
- Produce an annual work plan with specific objectives by no later than April of each year, in consultation with Council and staff liaisons, for distribution to Council and civic departments for information.
- Submit an annual report to Council describing the Advisory Committee's accomplishments for the year, including reference to each objective set out in the work plan and any arising issues to which the Advisory Committee has responded.

The Committee adjourned at 10:26 pm.

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REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON
POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

JANUARY 17, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, at 9:55 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT:	Mayor Gregor Robertson Councillor George Affleck Councillor Hector Bremner Councillor Adriane Carr Councillor Melissa De Genova Councillor Heather Deal Councillor Raymond Louie Councillor Andrea Reimer Councillor Tim Stevenson
ABSENT:	Councillor Elizabeth Ball, Vice-Chair (Medical Leave) Councillor Kerry Jang (Leave of Absence)
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:	Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:	Katrina Leckovic, Deputy City Clerk Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
January 17, 2018

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities. Its items of business included:

1. Presentation - Staff Update on Opioid Crisis - New Provincial Response and Key Initiatives from Health Partners
2. Presentation - Vancouver's Mobility Future: "Automating" Policy into Sustainable Results
3. Cambie Bridge Interim Active Transportation Improvements
4. Updates to the Payment-in-Lieu Parking Program
5. 8901 Stanley Park Drive - Stanley Park Brewpub - Liquor Primary Licence and Outdoor Patio Application
6. Gender Equality Update
7. Application for Payment-in-Lieu of Parking at 137 Keefer Street
8. Creating Optimal Conditions for Small Businesses to Succeed and Thrive in the City of Vancouver

Items 1 to 8

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Councillor Louie

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of January 17, 2018, as contained in items 1 to 8, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Freedom of the City Award Program and Policy - Revisions

At the Regular Council meeting on January 16, 2018, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Regular Council meeting following the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on January 17, 2018, as Unfinished Business.

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED BY Councillor Louie

THAT Unfinished Business Item 1 - "Freedom of the City Award Program and Policy - Revisions", be referred to the Regular Council meeting on January 30, 2018, as Unfinished Business".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Council recessed at 9:56 pm and reconvened at 10:26 pm.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 10:27 pm.

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