MOTION ON NOTICE

3. Opportunities for Short-Term Rental Accommodations to Contribute to Affordable Housing in the City of Vancouver

MOVER: Councillor De Genova SECONDER: Councillor Ball

WHEREAS

- 1. The City of Vancouver defines a short-term rental as "a home, or room within, rented for less than 30 days at a time";
- 2. To meet the City of Vancouver requirements for a Short Term Rental, the home must be the principal residence of the applicant and a license is required;
- 3. Three by-laws passed by City Council, amend existing by-laws and allow the City of Vancouver to license Short-Term Rentals and enforce rules against short term rentals that operate without a business license from the City of Vancouver;
- 4. The City of Vancouver is in an affordability and housing crisis and is in need of effective solutions to this crisis;
- 5. The City of Vancouver webpage dedicated to Short Term Rental Accommodation Information acknowledges that short term rentals allow individuals to earn additional income, provides short-term accommodation options within the city and supports Vancouver's tourism industry. Council heard public testimony from a number of short-term rental operators who rely on this income to pay their mortgages and save for education or retirement;
- 6. Council has not been presented with data showing the amount of long term rental housing supply that has been added to the market because of the City of Vancouver's Short Term Rental Accommodation Business License, enforcement policies and regulation;
- 7. The City of Vancouver cites a main reason of the new short-term rental licensing and policy framework as a way to increase the supply of long term rental housing;
- 8. Other cities including Seattle, have adopted ordinances allowing for regulated growth in the short-term rental and vacation rental markets while applying a nightly tax on stays to fund affordable housing initiatives.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

A. THAT Council direct staff to work with short term rental platforms and other cities that have implemented short term rental regulations, restrictions and taxes and report back with the metrics as to how a tax and allowing short term rentals can contribute to funding city-led initiatives for affordable housing;

FURTHER THAT staff include this information in any further reports to Council this term that address short term rental housing.

B. THAT Council direct staff to provide a memo to Council, at least two weeks in advance of any report or recommendations pertinent to Short Term Rental.

FURTHER THAT the memo include specific statistics supporting the impact the City of Vancouver Short Term Rental License Regulations have had on transitioning short term rental accommodations to the long term rental market in Vancouver and the cost of enforcement, including staff time, any new positions and any legal action the City of Vancouver has taken against short-term rentals in violation of City of Vancouver regulations.

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