

## MOTION ON NOTICE

# B.2

### 2. Improving Resident Participation at City Council

Submitted by: Councillor Kirby-Yung

#### WHEREAS

1. Meetings of Vancouver City Council are governed by the Procedure By-law No. 9756 which was enacted on November 25, 2008, and consolidated for convenience to March 27, 2012;
2. Hearing from residents of Vancouver and providing residents the opportunity to speak to City Council on civic matters is an important and fundamental aspect of our democratic process;
3. The current processes governing or being followed regarding hearing of speakers at Council and Committee meetings are inefficient and unpredictable for residents and are resulting in long delays with speakers oftentimes waiting for hours on end for the opportunity to address Council on their desired agenda item. Speakers are often pushed to late in an evening, the following days or even the following week;
4. Current processes often result in speaker drop-off as residents have jobs and commitments, varying circumstances, accessibility needs and transportation considerations. Conditions are not being created to allow our diverse voices in the city to be heard;
5. Council has a responsibility to maximize the ability for residents to participate in their local civic government and to reduce barriers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back before the end of January 2019 with recommendations and proposed changes that could improve the process and predictability for the scheduling of speakers for items on Council agendas;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT recommendations give consideration but are not limited to, the ability or option to hear speakers on member motions on the relevant Council day versus automatic referral to Standing Committees, as well as the potential to schedule specific time slots and speaker times. Additionally, that staff indicate any required updates to Procedure By-law No 9765 accompanying the recommendations, with the goal of improving resident participation and experience at Vancouver City Council.

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