



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 17, 2019
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: June 25, 2019

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Acting Co-General Manager, Development, Buildings and Licensing;
General Manager, Arts Culture and Community Services; General Manager
Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Good Night Out: Funding Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve a grant of \$25,000 to Good Night Out Vancouver Society to deliver the Good Night Out Street Team Program in the Granville Entertainment District as described in this report. The funding source will be the 2019 operating budgets of Development, Buildings and Licensing and Engineering Street Activities.
- B. THAT, pursuant to Section 206 (1) (j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council deem the organization in Recommendation A to be contributing to the health and welfare of the city.
- C. THAT the grant be subject to the approved recipient organization signing and returning a grant letter agreeing in writing to its terms.

Approval of Recommendations A and B constitute a grant and therefore require the affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of all of Council members pursuant to Section 206(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

REPORT SUMMARY

On May 2, 2018 Council directed staff to pursue a collaborative funding partnership for a permanent Good Night Out (GNO) Street Team program in the Granville Entertainment District (GED). The program has received funding from the City of Vancouver, the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association and the Vancouver Police Foundation as well as Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS) for Juno Awards in 2018. Staff recommends

that Council provide a \$25,000 grant to cover approximately half of their 2019 operating expenses and to build their fund raising capacity for 2020 and beyond.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On June 14, 2017, Council directed staff to establish a working group of key stakeholders in the Granville Entertainment District to improve consultation and coordination of efforts to reduce street disorder and gender-based violence, and to improve business in the area. The working group included local bars and restaurants, Bar Watch, the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Coastal Health and community organization.

On May 2, 2018 Council directed staff to pursue opportunities for a collaborative funding partnership to support a permanent Good Night Out Program that contributes to nighttime safety downtown, particularly for women, LGBTQ2+ and other vulnerable populations.

On September 18, 2018, Council approved a \$20,000 grant to the Good Night Out Street Team sourced from the 2018 operating budgets of Development Buildings and Licensing, and Engineering.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

In June 2017, Council approved a number of actions recommended in the staff report *Liquor Policy Review and Recommended Actions* to improve safety in the Granville Entertainment District (GED) and directed staff to create a working group with key GED stakeholders to explore safety solutions in the district. The GED Safety and Security Working Group (see membership list in Appendix A) met regularly to develop initiatives toward this objective.

One initiative was a pilot of the Good Night Out (GNO) Street Team program on Granville Street in fall of 2017. The GNO Street Team are trained volunteers who receive an honorarium who offer support and assistance to GED patrons on weekend late nights. The focus of the Team is on safety and security for women and vulnerable populations. The GNO Street Team pilot had volunteers trained in skilled by-stander intervention and basic first aid engage with people on the street on weekend nights between midnight and 3:00 a.m. For eight weeks the GNO Street Team provided assistance and support to people in the GED on weekend late nights, specifically focusing on safety of women and vulnerable populations. The pilot was co-funded by the DV BIA and BarWatch. An online survey and data collected by the Street Team yielded encouraging results. The GED Safety and Security Working Group members endorsed a year-long GNO Street Team program; the DV BIA committed to funding for it, provided matching funds could be secured. This commitment was communicated in the staff report to Council on May 2, 2018. Council directed staff to explore opportunities for a collaborative funding partnership to support a permanent Good Night Out program, and in September 2018, approved a grant of

\$20,000 as an interim measure to maintain Good Night Out operations into early 2019. The budget for a full year program is \$65,000.

Good Night Out was able to operate until the end of April 2019 using the September 2018 City grant and \$15,000 provided by the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association; capital funding requirements were met through a grant from the Vancouver Police Foundation (\$7,500).

The GNO Street Team collected data on their street activities since June 2018, tracking the number of contacts made, the reason and the location of the contact. They also recorded data by gender presentation. GNO staff made contact with over 2,500 people between June 2018 and April 2019, with the main reasons for contact being general check-in for well-being, assistance to intoxicated individuals, and providing information on informed consent. The data are published on the GNO website (<https://www.goodnightoutvancouver.com/good-night-out-data>).

The Good Night Out Street Team has support from the Vancouver Police Department as their presence and work in the GED enhance safety for patrons, venue staff, members of the public and the police.

Strategic Analysis

The GNO Street Team provides services which are aligned with the City's objective to have a vibrant nightlife that is safe for all patrons, including women, LGBTQ2+ and vulnerable populations. GNO has been active in seeking funds: hiring a grant writer and submitting grant requests to local businesses and organizations, hosting an information event for local businesses, and organizing an on-line crowd funding event.

Staff recommends that Council approve a \$25,000 grant of which \$20,000 will be used for operation of the GNO Street Team for the remainder of 2019 and \$5,000 will be designated to assist GNO to develop a fundraising strategy for 2020 and beyond to identify diverse and sustainable funding sources. If approved, the funds will be provided from the operational fund of the Development, Building and Licensing and Engineering departments.

In addition to financial assistance, staff will connect the GNO Street Team to contractors and/or experts who specialize in assisting non-profits with developing their fund-raising capacity. The goal is to enable GNO to diversify their funding sources and achieve long-term financial sustainability.

The DVBIA has pledged to support the GNO Street Team operations provided the GNO is able to secure matching funds from other sources. Should the City provide \$20,000 to cover GNO's operations until the end of 2019, as recommended by staff, it is expected that DVBIA will release an additional \$10,000 to also cover 2019 operating expenses.

Financial

The funding source for the \$25,000 grant to Good Night Out Vancouver Society will be from the 2019 operating budgets of Development Buildings and Licensing (\$15,000) and Engineering (\$10,000).

CONCLUSION

On May 2, 2018, Council directed staff to pursue opportunities for a collaborative funding partnership to support a permanent Good Night Out (GNO) Program that contributes to nighttime safety downtown. In response, staff recommends that the City provide \$25,000 to the GNO Program to cover 2019 operating expenses and to build their capacity to raise funds for future years.

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Granville Entertainment District Safety and Security Working Group Members

Industry

Alliance of Beverage Licensees BC
BarWatch
Hospitality Vancouver Association
Cadillac Fairview
Best Western Chateau Granville
BC LCLB
Downtown Vancouver Business Association

Not for Profit

Good Night Out
Music BC

Government Agencies

City of Vancouver (Development, Buildings and Licensing and Arts, Culture and Community Services)
Vancouver Police Department
Coastal Health
BC LCLB