

## **8. Expanding Downtown Eastside Greenspace and Waterfront Access**

At the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on June 26 and 27, 2019, due to time constraints, the Committee referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on July 10, 2019, to hear from speakers.

Submitted by: Councillor Swanson

### WHEREAS

1. On May 27, 2018, the Vancouver Park Board unanimously approved an amended motion requesting that the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority identifies further opportunities to make investments in the local Downtown Eastside community with a particular focus on parks, recreation, and Reconciliation, and that the Park Board explore the initiation of a working group in partnership with the City of Vancouver and community stakeholders with a goal to transition the development and construction of an indigenous-focused healing, wellness, and/or cultural centre out of the theoretical and into action and reality;
2. In 2015, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority announced the Centerm Expansion Project, which involves a series of improvements at the Centerm container terminal, including extending the terminal to the west;
3. On April 18, 2018, a project permit was approved for the Centerm Expansion Project;
4. On June 20, 2018, City Council approved recommendations for staff to continue to work with community, health sector, foundation and government partners to plan for the development and operation of an Indigenous Healing and Wellness Centre in the Downtown Eastside;
5. Waterfront spaces are critically important both culturally and ecologically to the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and every opportunity should be sought to partner with them on the potential of such spaces;
6. Based on the City's support of the Park Board's park provision targets, the Downtown Eastside is park deficient and would benefit from the addition of greenspace;
7. Community members have expressed an interest for an indigenous healing centre/arts and cultural centre in CRAB Park;
8. The Port Authority has stated its commitment to being a good neighbour to local communities, municipalities and First Nations, and to demonstrating this commitment through its investments in those communities.

### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council requests the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority identifies further opportunities to make investments in the local community with a

particular focus on parks, recreation, and Reconciliation, and to engage with the City, Park Board, Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and Urban Indigenous communities on future planning processes and opportunities for the Central Waterfront area, including CRAB Park, that would support:

- i. vulnerable populations in the Downtown Eastside through equitable access to expanded, high quality greenspace;
  - ii. improving community access to existing parks and greenspace;
  - iii. exploring the feasibility of a new indigenous healing centre or cultural centre at CRAB Park;
  - iv. creating and enhancing significant shoreline habitat; and
  - v. the city-wide focus of expanding waterfront park access.
- B. THAT the Vancouver City Council support and assist in funding the development and construction of an indigenous-focused healing, wellness, and/or cultural centre at CRAB Park.
- C. THAT Vancouver City Council works in collaboration with the federal Minister of Transportation, the local Member of Parliament, the local Member of the Legislative Assembly, the Park Board, and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to achieve points i-v of Part A above.

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