



## REPORT TO COUNCIL

### STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

NOVEMBER 27, 2019

A Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities was held on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, at 9:36 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Adriane Carr, Chair  
Mayor Kennedy Stewart\* (Leave of Absence after 6 pm - Civic Business)  
Councillor Christine Boyle  
Councillor Melissa De Genova\*  
Councillor Lisa Dominato\*  
Councillor Pete Fry  
Councillor Colleen Hardwick  
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung, Vice-Chair\*  
Councillor Jean Swanson  
Councillor Michael Wiebe\*

**ABSENT:** Councillor Rebecca Bligh (Leave of Absence – Civic Business)

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Sadhu Johnston, City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk  
Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk  
Tamarra Wong, Meeting Coordinator

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting

### WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and we thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

The Chair also recognized the immense contributions of the City of Vancouver's staff who work hard every day to help make our city an incredible place to live, work, and play.

### MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

MOVED by Mayor Stewart

THAT Council adopt Item 4, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillors De Genova, Dominato, Kirby-Yung and Wiebe absent for the vote)

\* \* \* \* \*

VARY AGENDA

*MOVED by Councillor Hardwick*

*THAT the Committee vary the order of the agenda to deal with Item 6 - Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax, at 2 pm.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY  
(Councillors De Genova, Kirby-Yung and Wiebe absent for the vote)*

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

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## **1. Presentation – Healthy City Strategy Action Plan**

Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager, along with Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy and Projects Division, Peter Marriott, Social Planner, Social Policy and Projects Division, and Dr. Réka Gustafson, Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Coastal Health, provided a presentation and responded to questions.

## **2. By-laws to Reduce Single-Use Items November 7, 2019**

Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste and Resource Recovery, introduced the item and staff from Engineering presented on the above-noted matter.

Following the presentation, the Committee agreed to ask questions of staff after the hearing of speakers.

The Committee heard from four speakers who spoke in general support, one speaker who spoke in opposition and one speaker who spoke to other matters of the recommendations.

\* \* \* \* \*

*During the hearing of speakers, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor De Genova*

*THAT the meeting be extended to 12:15 pm in order to hear from speakers;*

*FURTHER THAT the meeting reconvene at 2 pm in order to deal with Item 6.*

*CARRIED AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY  
(Councillor Kirby-Yung opposed)*

*RECONSIDERATION MOVED by Councillor De Genova*

*THAT the meeting be extended to 12:15 pm in order to hear from speakers;*

*FURTHER THAT the meeting reconvene at 2 pm in order to deal with Item 6.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

*MOVED by Councillor De Genova*

*THAT the meeting be extended to 12:15 pm in order to hear from speakers;*

*FURTHER THAT the meeting reconvene at 2:15 pm to deal with Item 6.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

\* \* \* \* \*

*The Committee recessed at 12:13 pm and reconvened at 2:38 pm with Item 6 - Report Back on  
Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Following the completion of Item 6, the Committee continued to hear speakers on Item 2.

The Committee heard from five speakers who spoke in general support and four in opposition to the recommendations.

During the hearing of speakers, Councillor De Genova rose on a point of order regarding a speaker's comments to the Councillor's earlier remarks. The Chair ruled in favour of Councillor De Genova's point of order and reminded the speaker to keep comments germane and to not impugn other Councillors' remarks.

\* \* \* \* \*

*During the hearing of speakers, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Hardwick*

*THAT the meeting be extended past 5 pm to hear the remaining speakers.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY  
(Councillor De Genova and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)*

\* \* \* \* \*

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the Committee refer the Report dated, November 8, 2019, entitled “Increasing and Collecting Fines Related to Fighting and Disorder in the Granville Entertainment District”, to the Council meeting on December 10, 2019, as Unfinished Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

\* \* \* \* \*

*The Committee recessed at 5:21 pm and reconvened at 6:20 pm.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Following the recess, staff from Engineering Services responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Fry  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve, in principal, proposed amendments to the License By-law No. 4450 and Ticket Offences By-law No. 9360, as set out in:
  - i. Appendix A, concerning plastic straws;
  - ii. Appendix B, concerning single-use beverage cups;
  - iii. Appendix C, concerning single-use utensils;
  - iv. Appendix D, concerning shopping bags;
  - v. Appendix E, clarifying the term “food vendors”; and
  - vi. Appendix F, establishing fines for ticket offences consistent with recommended fines for similar offences.
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment by-laws generally in accordance with Appendices A through F of the Report dated November 7, 2019, entitled “By-laws to Reduce Single-Use Items”.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to work with organizations representing the interests of marginalized residents in 2020 to identify opportunities to address potential negative impacts associated with the by-law changes for shopping bags contained in A (iv) above.
- D. THAT, notwithstanding the Council Resolution entitled, “Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy”, adopted on June 5, 2018, Council endorse:
  - i. A requirement for paper shopping bags to contain at least 40% recycled content as part of the by-law changes contained in A (iv) above;

- ii. Regulation of compostable single-use items according to the restrictions in the by-law changes contained in A (i) through (iv) above; and
  - iii. Regulation of disposable cups and plastic shopping bags according to the by-law changes contained in A (ii) and (iv) above.
- E. THAT the Mayor write to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy on behalf of Council to request that the Province develop standards relating to the use of compostable, biodegradable, oxodegradable and photodegradable plastics, align standards for certified compostable plastics and compost facilities in British Columbia, and require Extended Producer Responsibility for all compostable packaging wastes generated by residential, industrial, commercial and institutional sectors, as well as the public realm.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Wiebe

THAT the following be added to A:

FURTHER THAT the timeline for the single-use utensils by-law be moved to be in line with the plastic straws by-law to ensure that the communication material can be coordinated;

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Vancouver provide all businesses that are required to comply with the by-laws for plastic straws and single-use utensils with a toolkit that will include sample “accessible straws”, zero waste business support materials and training guidelines for their employees.

FURTHER THAT the following be added as F:

THAT Council direct staff to report back on a single-use-item-free policy for Council consideration for all civic facilities and events.

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the last paragraph in A be amended as follows:

- Insert the phrase “upon request” after the word provide;
- Delete the word “all” between the words “to” and “businesses” and
- Insert the phrase “as well as provide detailed information on alternatives on the City of Vancouver website,” at the end.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05222)  
(Councillor Wiebe opposed)  
(Councillor De Genova abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."*

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT A be amended as follows:

- Delete the second paragraph and replace with the following:

THAT the timeline for the plastic straws by-law be moved to be in line with the single-use utensils by-law to ensure that the communication material can be coordinated; and

- Add the following to the end:

FURTHER THAT the plastic straws ban be referred back to staff for further consultation with the disability community.

not put

The Chair ruled the amendment to the amendment out of order as both clauses conflict with each other.

The Committee agreed to separate the components of the amendment as amended for the vote.

FURTHER THAT the timeline for the single-use utensils by-law be moved to be in line with the plastic straws by-law to ensure that the communication material can be coordinated;

CARRIED (Vote No. 05223)  
(Councillors De Genova, Hardwick, Kirby-Yung and Swanson opposed)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Vancouver provide upon request to businesses that are required to comply with the by-laws for plastic straws and single-use utensils with a toolkit that will include sample "accessible straws," zero waste business support materials and training guidelines for their employees, as well as provide detailed information on alternatives on the City of Vancouver website.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05224)  
(Councillors De Genova and Hardwick opposed)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

F. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a single-use-item-free policy for Council consideration for all civic facilities and events.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05226)  
(Councillor De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Boyle abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT A (i) be deleted;

FURTHER THAT B be amended to strike the letter ‘A’ and replace with the letter ‘B’ after the word “Appendices”.

lost

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Swanson

THAT the following be added to the end of A:

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back on options for requiring businesses to supply accessible straws upon request.

not put

The Chair ruled the amendment to the amendment out of order as it contradicts the amendment.

The amendment LOST (Vote No. 05227) with Councillors Carr, Dominato, Fry, Kirby-Yung, Swanson and Wiebe opposed, Councillor Hardwick abstaining from the vote and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote.

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the following be added as G:

THAT Council direct staff to:

- 1) Include in the development of educational materials and resources for food vendors information to shift our waste culture that encourages vendors to offer reusable cups as a first choice; and
- 2) Provide supporting materials such as signs and decals that would be available for in-store use that encourages customers to bring reusable cups or request one, instead of using a single-use beverage cup.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05228)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

The Committee agreed to separate the components of the motion, as amended, for the final vote.

The Committee voted on Sections of A as follows:

- A. THAT Council approve, in principal, proposed amendments to the License By-law No. 4450 and Ticket Offences By-law No. 9360, as set out in:
  - i. Appendix A, concerning plastic straws;

CARRIED (Vote No. 05229)  
(Councillors Boyle and De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Hardwick abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."*

- ii. Appendix B, concerning single-use beverage cups;

CARRIED (Vote No. 05230)  
(Councillor De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Hardwick abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."*

- iii. Appendix C, concerning single-use utensils;

CARRIED (Vote No. 05231)  
(Councillor De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Hardwick abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."*

- iv. Appendix D, concerning shopping bags;
  - v. Appendix E, clarifying the term "food vendors";
  - vi. Appendix F, establishing fines for ticket offences consistent with recommended fines for similar offences;

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05232)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

FURTHER THAT the timeline for the single-use utensils by-law be moved to be in line with the plastic straws by-law to ensure that the communication material can be coordinated;

CARRIED (Vote No. 05240)  
(Councillor Kirby-Yung opposed)  
(Councillors De Genova and Swanson abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)



*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Vancouver provide upon request to businesses that are required to comply with the by-laws for plastic straws and single-use utensils with a toolkit that will include sample “accessible straws,” zero waste business support materials and training guidelines for their employees, as well as provide detailed information on alternatives on the City of Vancouver website.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 0541)  
(Councillor De Genova abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment by-laws generally in accordance with Appendices A through F of the Report dated November 7, 2019, entitled “By-laws to Reduce Single-Use Items”.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05233)  
(Councillor De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Boyle abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

- C. THAT Council direct staff to work with organizations representing the interests of marginalized residents in 2020 to identify opportunities to address potential negative impacts associated with the by-law changes for shopping bags contained in A (iv) above.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05234)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

The Committee voted on Sections of D as follows:

- D. THAT, notwithstanding the Council Resolution entitled “Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy”, adopted on June 5, 2018, Council endorse:
- i. A requirement for paper shopping bags to contain at least 40% recycled content as part of the by-law changes contained in A (iv) above;
  - ii. Regulation of compostable single-use items according to the restrictions in the by-law changes contained in A (i) through (iv) above; and

CARRIED (Vote No. 05235)  
(Councillor Hardwick abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

- iii. Regulation of disposable cups and plastic shopping bags according to the by-law changes contained in A (ii) and (iv) above.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05236)  
(Councillor De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Hardwick abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

- E. THAT the Mayor write to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy on behalf of Council to request that the Province develop standards relating to the use of compostable, biodegradable, oxodegradable and photodegradable plastics, align standards for certified compostable plastics and compost facilities in British Columbia, and require Extended Producer Responsibility for all compostable packaging wastes generated by residential, industrial, commercial and institutional sectors, as well as the public realm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05237)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

- F. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a single-use-item-free policy for Council consideration for all civic facilities and events.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05238)  
(Councillor De Genova opposed)  
(Councillor Boyle abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

*Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states “Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative.”*

- G. THAT Council direct staff to:
  - 1) Include in the development of educational materials and resources for food vendors information to shift our waste culture that encourages vendors to offer reusable cups as a first choice; and
  - 2) Provide supporting materials such as signs and decals that would be available for in-store use that encourages customers to bring reusable cups or request one, instead of using a single-use beverage cup.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05239)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

## FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

- A. THAT Council approve, in principal, proposed amendments to the License By-law No. 4450 and Ticket Offences By-law No. 9360, as set out in:
- i. Appendix A, concerning plastic straws;
  - ii. Appendix B, concerning single-use beverage cups;
  - iii. Appendix C, concerning single-use utensils;
  - iv. Appendix D, concerning shopping bags;
  - v. Appendix E, clarifying the term “food vendors”;
  - vi. Appendix F, establishing fines for ticket offences consistent with recommended fines for similar offences;

FURTHER THAT the timeline for the single-use utensils by-law be moved to be in line with the plastic straws by-law to ensure that the communication material can be coordinated;

AND FURTHER THAT The City of Vancouver provide upon request to businesses that are required to comply with the by-laws for plastic straws and single-use utensils with a toolkit that will include sample “accessible straws,” zero waste business support materials and training guidelines for their employees, as well as provide detailed information on alternatives on the City of Vancouver website.

- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment by-laws generally in accordance with Appendices A through F of the Report dated November 7, 2019, entitled “By-laws to Reduce Single-Use Items”.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to work with organizations representing the interests of marginalized residents in 2020 to identify opportunities to address potential negative impacts associated with the by-law changes for shopping bags contained in A (iv) above.
- D. THAT, notwithstanding the Council Resolution entitled “Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy”, adopted on June 5, 2018, Council endorse:
- i. A requirement for paper shopping bags to contain at least 40% recycled content as part of the by-law changes contained in A (iv) above;
  - ii. Regulation of compostable single-use items according to the restrictions in the by-law changes contained in A (i) through (iv) above; and
  - iii. Regulation of disposable cups and plastic shopping bags according to the by-law changes contained in A (ii) and (iv) above.
- E. THAT the Mayor write to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy on behalf of Council to request that the Province develop standards

relating to the use of compostable, biodegradable, oxodegradable and photodegradable plastics, align standards for certified compostable plastics and compost facilities in British Columbia, and require Extended Producer Responsibility for all compostable packaging wastes generated by residential, industrial, commercial and institutional sectors, as well as the public realm.

- F. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a single-use-item-free policy for Council consideration for all civic facilities and events.
- G. THAT Council direct staff to:
  - 1) Include in the development of educational materials and resources for food vendors information to shift our waste culture that encourages vendors to offer reusable cups as a first choice; and
  - 2) Provide supporting materials such as signs and decals that would be available for in-store use that encourages customers to bring reusable cups or request one, instead of using a single-use beverage cup.

**3. Employment Lands & Economy Review – Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps  
November 11, 2019**

Before the start of the item, the Committee agreed to refer the following:

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the Committee hear from speakers for the Report dated, November 11, 2019, entitled “Employment Lands & Economy Review – Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps”, and refer the staff presentation, questions, discussion and decision to a future meeting;

FURTHER THAT the Committee hear from speakers for the motion entitled “City of Vancouver Responsible Divestment from Fossil Fuels” and refer discussion and decision to a future meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

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

**4. 3123 West Broadway – Hollywood Theatres Ltd.  
Liquor Primary Liquor Licence Application  
Liquor Establishment Venue  
November 8, 2019**

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council, having considered the opinion of area residents and business operators as determined by neighbourhood notification, site sign, noise impacts and relevant Council policy as outlined in the Report dated November 8, 2019, entitled “3123 West

Broadway – Hollywood Theatres Ltd. Liquor Primary Liquor Licence Application Liquor Establishment Venue”, endorse the application submitted by Christa Montpetit of Blue Diamond Hospitality Inc., on behalf of the applicant, Hollywood Theatres Ltd., for a new event-driven Liquor Primary liquor licence (Liquor Establishment Venue), with an interior capacity of 594 persons located at 3123 West Broadway, subject to:

- i. A maximum interior capacity of 594 persons;
- ii. Standard Hours of operation limited to 11 am to 12 am, Sunday to Thursday, and 11 am to 1 am, Friday and Saturday, for a minimum of six months;
- iii. Liquor service is event-driven and only permitted in conjunction with pre-booked events;
- iv. Food service to be available while the establishment is operating;
- v. A Time-Limited Development Permit
- vi. An acoustic report to be submitted certifying that the establishment meets Noise Control By-law requirements; and
- vii. Signing a Good Neighbour Agreement with the City prior to business licence issuance, including a commitment to providing use of the venue by local non-profit arts and culture organizations for arts and cultural purposes at cost.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 05217)

(Councillors De Genova, Dominato, Kirby-Yung and Wiebe absent for the vote)

**5. Increasing and Collecting Fines Related to Fighting and Disorder in the Granville Entertainment District  
November 8, 2019**

At the Council meeting on November 26, 2019, Council referred the above-noted item to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 27, 2019.

Due to time constraints, the Committee referred the above-noted item to the Council meeting on December 10, 2019, as Unfinished Business.

**6. Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax  
November 15, 2019**

At the Council meeting on November 26, 2019, Council referred the above-noted item to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 27, 2019.

Patrice Impey, General Manager of Finance, Risk and Supply Chain Management, responded to questions.

MOVED by Mayor Stewart

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve amendments to Vacancy Tax By-law No. 11674 (the “Vacancy Tax By-law”) as described in the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled “Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax”, and instruct the Director of Legal Services to bring forward for

enactment a by-law to amend the Vacancy Tax By-law generally as set out in Appendix A of the above-noted Report.

- B. THAT Council receive for information the results of the Empty Homes Tax consultation with key experts, stakeholders, and members of the public as contained in Appendix B of the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax".
- C. THAT Council receive for information the 2018 Empty Homes Tax Annual Report, including key impact indicators and a summary of expenditures to date, as contained in Appendix C of the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax", with future Annual Reports to be posted on the City of Vancouver website.
- D. THAT Council instruct staff to request an information sharing agreement between the City and the Province, as represented by the Ministry of Finance, pursuant to the provisions of the Provincial Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to further explore the creation of a new category of residential property under the Vacancy Tax By-Law for split-class buildings where the residential portion of the buildings is classed as class 1 residential and designated as Single Room Accommodation ("SRA-designated") under the SRA By-law, and report back to Council on this potential amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law in a future report back on the SRA By-law.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to further explore the creation of a new category of residential property under the Vacancy Tax By-Law for split-class property where the residential portion of the property is classed as class 1 residential which includes improvement over land, and the remaining portion of the property is classed as class 8 recreation/non-profit which includes, in whole or in part, some form of community garden or public park space, and report back to Council on this potential amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law.
- G. THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare a further amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law to be brought forward for enactment in Q1 2020 to increase the rate of the Vacancy tax to 1.25% for the 2020 tax year and, following the results of additional monitoring, increase the rate to 1.5% for the 2021 tax year, and to 1.75% for the 2022 tax year. In addition, staff use any additional revenues to increase the focus on compliance as recommended by the housing policy experts, work with the province on enforcement and data sharing, and invest in housing for households with an annual income of less than \$50,000.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Swanson

THAT G be amended as follows:

- Delete the phrase "be brought forward for enactment in Q1 2020";

- Delete the number “1.25%” and replace with the number “1.9%”;
- Insert the phrase “and that” after the phrase “2020 tax”; and
- Delete the phrase “year and, following the results of additional monitoring, increase the rate to 1.5% for the 2021 tax year, and to 1.75% for the 2022 tax year. In addition”.

LOST (Vote No. 05218)

(Councillors Boyle, Carr, De Genova, Dominato, Fry, Hardwick, Kirby-Yung, Wiebe and Mayor Stewart opposed)

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*The Committee recessed at 3:02 pm and reconvened at 3:08 pm.*

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AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the following be added as H and I:

- H. THAT Council direct staff to further explore and report back on options to enhance the clarity and transparency of Empty Homes Tax information on the City of Vancouver website.
- I. THAT Council direct staff to further explore and report back at an In Camera meeting on options with respect to late declarations made in good faith after the normal deadlines to initiate an appeal and/or hear complaints and reviews have passed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05219)

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*The Committee recessed at 3:17 pm and reconvened at 3:28 pm.*

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The Committee agreed to separate the components of the motion, as amended, for the final vote.

- G. THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare a further amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law to be brought forward for enactment in Q1 2020 to increase the rate of the Vacancy tax to 1.25% for the 2020 tax year and, following the results of additional monitoring, increase the rate to 1.5% for the 2021 tax year, and to 1.75% for the 2022 tax year. In addition, staff use any additional revenues to increase the focus on compliance as recommended by the housing policy experts, work with the province on enforcement and data sharing,

and invest in housing for households with an annual income of less than \$50,000.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05220)  
(Councillors Dominato and Kirby-Yung opposed)

- A. THAT Council approve amendments to Vacancy Tax By-law No. 11674 (the "Vacancy Tax By-law") as described in the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax" and instruct the Director of Legal Services to bring forward for enactment a by-law to amend the Vacancy Tax By-law generally as set out in Appendix A of the above-noted Report.
- B. THAT Council receive for information the results of the Empty Homes Tax consultation with key experts, stakeholders, and members of the public as contained in Appendix B of the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax".
- C. THAT Council receive for information the 2018 Empty Homes Tax Annual Report, including key impact indicators and a summary of expenditures to date, as contained in Appendix C of the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax", with future Annual Reports to be posted on the City of Vancouver website.
- D. THAT Council instruct staff to request an information sharing agreement between the City and the Province, as represented by the Ministry of Finance, pursuant to the provisions of the Provincial Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to further explore the creation of a new category of residential property under the Vacancy Tax By-Law for split-class buildings where the residential portion of the buildings is classed as class 1 residential and designated as Single Room Accommodation ("SRA-designated") under the SRA By-law, and report back to Council on this potential amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law in a future report back on the SRA By-law.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to further explore the creation of a new category of residential property under the Vacancy Tax By-Law for split-class property where the residential portion of the property is classed as class 1 residential which includes improvement over land, and the remaining portion of the property is classed as class 8 recreation/non-profit which includes, in whole or in part, some form of community garden or public park space, and report back to Council on this potential amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law.
- H. THAT Council direct staff to further explore and report back on options to enhance the clarity and transparency of Empty Homes Tax information on the City of Vancouver website.



- I. THAT Council direct staff to further explore and report back at an In Camera meeting on options with respect to late declarations made in good faith after the normal deadlines to initiate an appeal and/or hear complaints and reviews have passed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05221)

**FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

- A. THAT Council approve amendments to Vacancy Tax By-law No. 11674 (the "Vacancy Tax By-law") as described in the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax" and instruct the Director of Legal Services to bring forward for enactment a by-law to amend the Vacancy Tax By-law generally as set out in Appendix A of the above-noted Report.
- B. THAT Council receive for information the results of the Empty Homes Tax consultation with key experts, stakeholders, and members of the public as contained in Appendix B of the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax".
- C. THAT Council receive for information the 2018 Empty Homes Tax Annual Report, including key impact indicators and a summary of expenditures to date, as contained in Appendix C of the Report dated November 15, 2019, entitled "Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax", with future Annual Reports to be posted on the City of Vancouver website.
- D. THAT Council instruct staff to request an information sharing agreement between the City and the Province, as represented by the Ministry of Finance, pursuant to the provisions of the Provincial Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to further explore the creation of a new category of residential property under the Vacancy Tax By-Law for split-class buildings where the residential portion of the buildings is classed as class 1 residential and designated as Single Room Accommodation ("SRA-designated") under the SRA By-law, and report back to Council on this potential amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law in a future report back on the SRA By-law.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to further explore the creation of a new category of residential property under the Vacancy Tax By-Law for split-class property where the residential portion of the property is classed as class 1 residential which includes improvement over land, and the remaining portion of the property is classed as class 8 recreation/non-profit which includes, in whole or in part, some form of community garden or public park space, and report back to Council on this potential amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law.
- G. THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare a further amendment to the Vacancy Tax By-law to be brought forward for enactment in Q1 2020 to increase the rate of the Vacancy tax to 1.25% for the 2020 tax year and, following the results of additional monitoring, increase the rate to 1.5% for

the 2021 tax year, and to 1.75% for the 2022 tax year. In addition, staff use any additional revenues to increase the focus on compliance as recommended by the housing policy experts, work with the province on enforcement and data sharing, and invest in housing for households with an annual income of less than \$50,000.

- H. THAT Council direct staff to further explore and report back on options to enhance the clarity and transparency of Empty Homes Tax information on the City of Vancouver website.
- I. THAT Council direct staff to further explore and report back at an In Camera meeting on options with respect to late declarations made in good faith after the normal deadlines to initiate an appeal and/or hear complaints and reviews have passed.

## **7. City of Vancouver Responsible Divestment From Fossil Fuels**

At the Council meeting on November 26, 2019, Council referred the above-noted motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 27, 2019, in order to hear from speakers.

Councillor Carr relinquished the Chair in order to participate in debate. Councillor Kirby-Yung assumed the Chair.

At 9:24pm, Councillor De Genova rose on a point of order in order to enquire on whether the motion was in order as it may relate to the area of Human Resources as per Section 165.2 of the *Vancouver Charter*. The Chair ruled that the Committee will continue to hear from speakers and that the City Manager will provide a response from Legal in advance of a subsequent meeting date.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

*During the hearing of speakers, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Carr*

*THAT the meeting be extended past 10 pm in order to hear from the remaining speakers.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)*

\* \* \* \* \*

Due to time constraints, the Committee referred the above-noted motion to a future meeting in order to continue with discussion and decision.

The Committee adjourned at 10:12 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*



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

**NOVEMBER 27, 2019**

A meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, at 10:12 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:** Councillor Colleen Hardwick, Deputy Mayor  
Councillor Christine Boyle  
Councillor Adriane Carr  
Councillor Lisa Dominato  
Councillor Pete Fry  
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Councillor Jean Swanson  
Councillor Michael Wiebe

**ABSENT:** Mayor Kennedy Stewart (Leave of Absence – Civic Business)  
Councillor Rebecca Bligh (Leave of Absence – Civic Business)  
Councillor De Genova

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Sadhu Johnston, City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Tina Penney, Director, Legislative Operations  
Tamarra Wong, Meeting Coordinator

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities  
Wednesday, November 27, 2019

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 – Healthy City Strategy Action Plan
2. By-laws to Reduce Single-Use Items
3. Employment Lands & Economy Review – Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps
4. 3123 West Broadway – Hollywood Theatres Ltd.  
Liquor Primary Liquor Licence Application  
Liquor Establishment Venue
5. Increasing and Collecting Fines Related to Fighting and Disorder in the Granville Entertainment District
6. Report Back on Review of Fairness and Effectiveness of the Empty Homes Tax
7. City of Vancouver Responsible Divestment From Fossil Fuels

Items 1 to 7

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Wiebe

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of November 27, 2019, as contained in items 1 to 7, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillor Dominato  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

The Council adjourned at 10:13 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*