



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

APRIL 29, 2020

A meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities was held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 9:33 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall. This Council meeting was convened by electronic means as authorized under the Order of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General of the Province of British Columbia – Emergency Program Act, Ministerial Order No. M083.

PRESENT:

- Councillor Adriane Carr, Chair
- Mayor Kennedy Stewart
- Councillor Rebecca Bligh*
- 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

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk
Terri Burke, 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 Councillor De Genova

THAT Council adopt Item 2, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Presentation: COVID-19 Housing Response

Gil Kelley, General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, along with Dan Garrison, Assistant Director - Housing Policy & Regulation, Planning, Urban Design & Sustainability, provided a presentation on the COVID-19 Housing Response, including impacts of COVID-19, preventing and mitigating infection in vulnerable populations, Phase I: Immediate Response Actions, and Phase II: Recalibrating our Housing System towards a More Equitable and Resilient City.

Mr. Kelley and Mr. Garrison, along with the City Manager, responded to questions.

2. New Lease for Victoria Drive Community Hall - 2026 East 43rd Avenue March 2, 2020

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize the Director of Real Estate Services to negotiate and execute a lease (the "Lease") with Victoria Drive Community Hall Association (the "Association") as the non-profit operator and tenant for the Victoria Drive Community Hall situated on City-owned property with a civic address of 2026 East 43rd Avenue, and legally described as: *PID's 013-586-441 and 013-586-467; Lots 8 and 9, District Lot 719, Plan 2609* (the "Premises", a plan of which is included in Appendix A of the Report dated March 2, 2020, entitled "New Lease for Victoria Drive Community Hall - 2026 East 43rd Avenue"). The Lease shall be based on the City's Precedent Lease for Non-profit Entities (Cultural/Social), on terms as set out in the signed Offer to Lease attached as Appendix A of the above-noted report (the "OTL"), and upon such other terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Real Estate and Facilities Management, the General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services and the Director of Legal Services;

As the rent under the Lease for the Premises will be below the applicable market rate and includes rent-in-lieu of property taxes, A above constitutes a grant valued at approximately \$175,600 per annum, based on the first year of the term.

- B. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council's adoption of A above unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND A
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 05834)

**3. Climate Emergency Requirements for New Housing 3-Storeys and Under
March 10, 2020**

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Prior to the staff presentation, it was

MOVED by Councillor De Genova

THAT, following the staff presentation, the Committee hear from speakers, prior to asking questions of staff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Chris Higgins, Green Building Planner - Sustainability Group, Planning, Urban Design & Sustainability, provided a presentation on Climate Emergency Requirements for New Housing 3-Storeys and Under, and along with staff from Planning, Urban, Design and Sustainability, and Development, Buildings and Licensing, responded to questions.

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

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During the hearing of speakers, it was

MOVED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the meeting be extended past 12 pm, in order to finish hearing from speakers on Item 2.

*CARRIED
(Councillor Swanson opposed)*

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The Committee recessed at 12:15 pm and reconvened at 2:42 pm.

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MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve amendments to the Building By-law, generally as described in this report and as set out in Appendix A, to: decrease carbon pollution and increase the energy efficiency requirements for residential buildings 3 storeys and under, including townhomes, to take effect January 1, 2022; to move closer into alignment with the BC Energy Step Code for residential buildings 4-6 storeys, to take effect January 1, 2021; to set a 2 tonne carbon pollution cap for new single family and duplex dwellings 325m²+, to take effect January 1, 2021; and to make various housekeeping amendments and amendments to close a loophole in the current lighting alterations provisions, to take effect July 1, 2020;

FURTHER THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare and bring forward for enactment the by-law necessary to implement these amendments, generally as outlined in Appendix A.

- B. THAT Council approve updates to the requirements for electric vehicle charging infrastructure in new one- and two-family dwellings and any ancillary residential suites in the Building By-law and the Parking By-law as set out in Appendix E to this report, to take effect January 1, 2021;

FURTHER THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare and bring forward for enactment the by-laws necessary to implement these amendments, generally as outlined in Appendix E.

- C. THAT Council instruct staff to develop recommendations to complement the climate and energy efficiency requirements in A above to ensure that useable space inside a new home is not reduced as a result of the increased space needed for zero emission mechanical equipment, and interior height is not reduced as a result of the roof thickness required for additional insulation in typical assemblies.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the motion be amended to add the following to the end of A:

“, except for heritage and character building renovations, and additions, that are to be instead exempted through Alternative Compliance Measures under Section 11 of the Vancouver Building By-law;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to undertake consultation with heritage and character house stakeholders to inform how in the future major renovations and additions can improve energy efficiency while retaining more of the original building integrity and to ensure retention is viable”;

FUTHER THAT the motion be amended to add the following to the end of B:

“, except for heritage and character building renovations, and additions that are to be instead exempted for these amendments under by-laws that apply to new construction.”

withdrawn

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During debate on the amendment, it was

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the Committee recess for fifteen minutes.

CARRIED
(Mayor Stewart opposed)

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The Committee recessed at 3:26 pm and reconvened at 3:44 pm.

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MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the amendment be withdrawn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the motion be amended to add D as follows:

- D. THAT Council direct staff to work with the Vancouver Heritage Foundation and stakeholders to update the Bulletin 2014-007 “Conservation of Heritage Buildings and Compliance with Vancouver’s Building By-Law”, to ensure that there is flexibility in the requirements, for modest renovations and additions for heritage and character homes that achieve retention goals, enabling approaches that are compatible with a historic building.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05819)
(Councillors Boyle and Swanson abstained from the vote)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

The Committee agreed to separate the vote on the components of the amended motion.

The amendment having carried unanimously, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED, with Councillor De Genova opposed to A and C (Vote No. 05821), and Councillor Swanson abstaining from D (Vote No. 05824). Councillor Bligh was absent for the votes.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

- A. THAT Council approve amendments to the Building By-law, generally as described in the Report dated March 10, 2020, entitled "Climate Emergency Requirements for New Housing 3-Storeys and Under", and as set out in Appendix A of the same report, to: decrease carbon pollution and increase the energy efficiency requirements for residential buildings 3 storeys and under, including townhomes, to take effect January 1, 2022; to move closer into alignment with the BC Energy Step Code for residential buildings 4-6 storeys, to take effect January 1, 2021; to set a 2 tonne carbon pollution cap for new single family and duplex dwellings 325m²+, to take effect January 1, 2021; and to make various housekeeping amendments and amendments to close a loophole in the current lighting alterations provisions, to take effect July 1, 2020;

FURTHER THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare and bring forward for enactment the by-law necessary to implement these amendments, generally as outlined in Appendix A of the above-noted report.

- B. THAT Council approve updates to the requirements for electric vehicle charging infrastructure in new one- and two-family dwellings and any ancillary residential suites in the Building By-law and the Parking By-law as set out in Appendix E of the Report dated March 10, 2020, entitled "Climate Emergency Requirements for New Housing 3-Storeys and Under", to take effect January 1, 2021;

FURTHER THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare and bring forward for enactment the by-laws necessary to implement these amendments, generally as outlined in Appendix E of the above-noted report.

- C. THAT Council instruct staff to develop recommendations to complement the climate and energy efficiency requirements in A above to ensure that useable space inside a new home is not reduced as a result of the increased space needed for zero emission mechanical equipment, and interior height is not reduced as a result of the roof thickness required for additional insulation in typical assemblies.

- D. THAT Council direct staff to work with the Vancouver Heritage Foundation and stakeholders to update the Bulletin 2014-007 "Conservation of Heritage Buildings and Compliance with Vancouver's Building By-Law", to ensure that there is flexibility in the requirements, for modest renovations and additions for heritage and character homes that achieve retention goals, enabling approaches that are compatible with a historic building.

**4. Original Low Carbon Rezoning Condition for Occupancy of Children's and Women's Hospital
April 7, 2020**

Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability staff responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council accept the reductions in carbon pollution achieved and anticipated through projects underway at Children's and Women's Health Centre, Vancouver General Hospital and other healthcare facilities in Vancouver, as presented in Appendix A of the Report dated April 7, 2020, entitled "Original Low Carbon Rezoning Condition for Occupancy of Children's and Women's Hospital", recognizing the challenges that made the original planned construction of a stand-alone low-carbon heat plant infeasible, as fulfilling the intent of the 'Low-Carbon Heat Plant' condition of approval of the 2012 rezoning of 4500 Oak Street (Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia);

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to revise or discharge any legal agreements resulting from the original rezoning condition of the Children's and Women's Health Centre.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to work with the Provincial Health Services Authority, and other organizations as may be appropriate, to include deep carbon reduction options within future business case development and energy planning activities for the Children's and Women's Health Centre.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05825)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

5. Ensuring All Vancouver Residents Can Comply With Public Health Guidance

At the Council meeting on April 28, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on April 29, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from 15 speakers in support of the recommendations.

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During the hearing of speakers, it was

MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the Committee finish hearing speakers on Item 5, prior to recessing for the dinner break.

*CARRIED
(Councillor Fry opposed)*

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The Committee recessed at 6 pm and reconvened at 7 pm.

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MOVED by Councillor Swanson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. COVID-19 is an unprecedented public health emergency;
2. Dr. Bonnie Henry, the Provincial Health Officer, has directed British Columbians to practice physical distancing and to “stay at home as much as possible” in order to slow the spread of COVID-19;
3. The City’s 2019 Homeless Count identified 2,223 residents as homeless, and these residents will likely be unable to follow Provincial health directives without additional assistance because they have no homes;
4. Mayor Kennedy Stewart has called upon the Provincial and Federal governments to provide “additional shelter capacity/temporary housing for up to 3,000 people currently unable to self-isolate”;
5. The Provincial Government and Provincial agencies, including BC Housing and Emergency Management BC, have significantly more flexibility in obtaining resources and, therefore, are better positioned than the City to address the housing needs of City residents during the COVID-19 crisis;
6. To date, the Provincial Government and Provincial agencies have not secured enough housing to allow for Vancouver’s homeless population to practice appropriate physical distancing and self-isolation;
7. There have been numerous COVID-19 outbreaks in congregate settings like prisons and long term care facilities;

8. Shelters are congregate settings where people have even less chance to self-isolate than people in prisons and nursing homes because they do not have private rooms or even cells with toilets;
9. There have been COVID-19 outbreaks in shelters in the US with large numbers of people testing positive even when they have few if any symptoms;
10. The continued use of shelters as spaces for people who are homeless increases risk of COVID-19 transmission among people who are and are not homeless;
11. Western Aboriginal Harm Reduction has a list of 92 people living in Oppenheimer Park who want to move indoors; and
12. The BC Hotel Association estimates that 60 per cent of hotels in British Columbia have closed due to the COVID-19 crisis, indicating that there are enough empty rooms to address the isolation needs of City of Vancouver residents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council urge the Province of British Columbia to acquire hotel rooms as soon as possible to offer to all unhoused people in Vancouver so they have the same opportunity for self-isolation as people with homes.
- B. THAT, if the Province is unwilling to take this action, the City itself will acquire hotel rooms for unhoused people and work with BC Housing and Coastal Health to provide supports so unhoused people have the same opportunity for self-isolation as people with homes.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the motion be struck and substituted with the following:

- A. THAT Council publicly express appreciation for the Provincial Government and BC Housing's ongoing work to provide housing and other supports for unhoused and systemically vulnerable Vancouver residents during COVID-19.
- B. THAT Council direct the Mayor to continue advocating on behalf of unhoused and systemically vulnerable Vancouver residents, including advocating strongly that the Province of British Columbia acquire enough hotel rooms, apartments, or other housing as soon as possible, to offer to all unhoused people in Vancouver so they have the same opportunity for self-isolation as people with homes.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to work with provincial and federal partners to support an urgent expansion of permanent social housing in all neighbourhoods of Vancouver, including by contributing city-owned land, so that residents

temporarily housed during COVID-19 are not moved back onto the street when physical distancing requirements are relaxed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05827)

The amendment having carried unanimously, the amended motion was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 05828), with Councillor Swanson opposed.

6. Private Single Room Occupancy Cleaning Cost Recovery

At the Council meeting on April 28, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on April 29, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from one speaker who spoke in opposition to the recommendations.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. On March 19, 2020, Vancouver City Council declared a State of Emergency in order to address the local impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic;
2. City of Vancouver By-law No. 5462 "Standards of Maintenance"¹ includes requirements to keep lodging accommodations in clean condition. Offences of a continuing nature against this By-law, are punishable with fines of \$250-\$10,000 per day;

Section 21.0 "Lodging Owners"

Every lodging house owner shall at all times keep or maintain the lodging house:

(a) in a thoroughly clean and sanitary condition, including windows and lightwells.

(b) free of pests, including insects and rodents.

(c) fixtures and appliances in good working order and repair.

(d) floors, stairs, doors, walls and windows in good working order and repair;

(e) heating system in good working order and repair; and

(f) sinks, toilets and bathing fixtures in good working order and repair.

Section 21.19: "The City Building Inspector may issue an order to an owner, a lodging house operator, a lodging house keeper or a lodger to bring about compliance with the provisions of this By-law.

¹ City of Vancouver "Standards of Maintenance By-law No. 5462" <https://bylaws.vancouver.ca/5462c.PDF>

3. Out of necessity to stop the spread of COVID-19, cleaners were contracted to clean common spaces and private rooms in Single Room Accommodations (SRAs), including privately owned SRAs at no cost to the Single Room Accommodation (SRA) owners;
4. The City of Vancouver does not typically fund the cleaning of privately owned residences or establishments and the Standards of Maintenance By-law requires cleaning at the expense of the owner:

Section 23.8 “Notwithstanding any other provisions of this By-law, where any building or land does not comply with standards set out in this By-law, the Council may, by resolution, order that failure to remedy any default specified in such order within 60 days after service of such order, will result in the work being carried out by the City at the expense of the owner.”

23.10 “All costs and expenses of the City, as a consequence of work carried out pursuant to Subsection 23.9, shall be paid by the owner or owner under agreement of the property within 30 days from the date of a statement of account from the City.”

23.11 “Any amount which remains unpaid after the time limited in Subsection 23.10 hereof, shall, after certification by the Director of Finance, be inserted in the Real Property Tax Roll as a charge with respect to the parcel on which the work was carried out.”

23.12 “Any order or notice referred to in Subsection 23.2, 23.8 or 23.8A hereof shall be sufficiently served if sent by registered mail to the owner or posted on the affected premises.”

23.13 “Before any matter is dealt with by Council pursuant to Subsection 23.8 hereof, the City Clerk shall notify the owner of the building or land that the Council will be considering the question of a violation of this By-law. Such notice shall specify the nature of the violations and shall specify the time and place at which the owner may appear before the Council to make representations in respect of the matters allege.”

5. There is no specific reference or requirements for room cleaning, or common use cleaning, health and safety Single Room Accommodation By-law No. 8733;²
6. Access to the “Building Owners’ Manual for Buildings in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside” published in 2010 can currently be found on the Worksafe BC website and states “your responsibility as a Building Owner is to maintain a healthy, safe

² City of Vancouver “Single Room Accommodation By-Law No. 8733
<https://bylaws.vancouver.ca/8733c.PDF>

and clean environment for your tenants and staff in an effort to minimize risk of harm to them;”³

7. SRAs are known to house and be frequented by the most vulnerable and marginalized people, who are at high risk for infection of COVID-19, and statistically face the most devastating medical complications from the coronavirus, including death;
8. The Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Revitalization Action Plan⁴ presented to Council in November 2017, states “the working group learned that enforcement tools can work alongside reinvestment strategies to exercise pressure on private owners and reposition their buildings into more effective management. Additional enforcement tools that both mitigate loss of affordability and improve maintenance and management standards were identified”, including:
 - Liens on title for noncompliance with orders; and
 - Use of civil forfeiture or expropriation of building with ongoing non-compliance;
9. As of April 8, 2020, the City of Vancouver projected a budget shortfall of approximately \$61 million, resulting from widespread economic impact and measures to combat COVID-19;
10. March 23, 2020, the Mayor called a Special Council meeting to amend By-law No. 12661 and enact By-law No. 9370, to enhance enforcement, fines and ticketing for the public and businesses that did not/could not comply with the physical /social distancing standards recommended by the Provincial Health Authority;
11. In April 2020, the City of Vancouver contracted cleaning services for SRA Buildings in common areas and private living spaces, in some cases, up to three times each day. BC Housing agreed to fund the first two weeks of cleaning services, at the request of the city. There is no guarantee BC Housing will continue to provide funding for this expense;
12. Contributions from Federal and Provincial governments amount to over 96 percent of BC Housing’s revenue “BC Housing is forecasting to receive total provincial contributions of \$1.370 billion”;⁵

³ WorkSafe BC “Building Owners’ Manual for buildings in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside”
<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/health-safety/books-guides/building-owners-manual-for-sro-buildings-in-vancouver-s-downtown-eastside?lang=en>

⁴ City of Vancouver | Housing Vancouver | Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Revitalization Plan
<https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/sro-revitalization-action-plan.pdf>

⁵ BC Housing | BC Housing’s Three-Year Service Plan 2020/2021-2022/2023
<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwjM4eDlqufoAhUU>

13. The hospitality industry may operate if they can comply with the social/physical distancing recommended by the Provincial Health Authority and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. Examples include: Restaurants offering take-out services only, and hotels. These establishments are responsible for cleaning establishments at their own cost, or they may face fines of up to \$50,000. Individuals not complying with social/physical distancing requirements face fines of \$1,000;
14. There is no mention of measures to amend by-laws and enforcement to hold private SRA building owners accountable for appropriate cleaning in the interest of health and safety;
15. On April 12, 2020, the Mayor's Office released a statement expressing concern for the City of Vancouver's ability to balance future budgets and possible bankruptcy, due to an inability to collect on property taxes by due dates; and
16. The City of Vancouver cannot afford to cover the costs of private SRA building owners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to consider revisions to the Single Room Accommodation By-law No. 8733 to include:
 - (i) Specific reference to the Standards of Maintenance By-law No. 5462 and any other City of Vancouver by-laws that apply to Single Room Accommodation Building Owners that include standards for maintenance, cleanliness, health and safety; and
 - (ii) Explicit information addressing non-compliance, including orders, fines and amounts.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to examine the possibility of actions that may be taken, including liens on title for non-compliance with orders and outstanding fines.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to increase enforcement of City of Vancouver by-laws, in the interest of maintaining standards that meet Vancouver Coastal Health and the Provincial Health Authority standards for cleanliness, health and safety, at the expense of the owner.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to consider if by-laws or powers enacted by the City of Vancouver and the province, in the current state of emergency, can be leveraged to require private Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Building owners to

reimburse the Province of BC for any cleaning costs paid for in privately owned SRA Buildings.

- E. THAT Council direct staff to share this resolution with BC Housing and request assistance in reporting enforceable by-law offences pertaining to cleanliness, health and safety in Single Room Accommodation buildings in the City of Vancouver.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to prepare a memo summarizing the enforcement of City of Vancouver by-laws in privately owned Single Room Accommodation Buildings, including:
 - (i) Information and data for fines, orders and actions taken to address cleanliness, health, and safety;
 - (ii) Any unpaid fines or outstanding orders; and
 - (iii) Information on current enforcement measures.

lost

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor De Genova

THAT C of the motion be amended by inserting the words “to consider and explore increasing” between the words “staff” and “enforcement”, and inserting the words “as soon as possible”, between the words “by-laws” and “in”, to read as follows:

- C. THAT Council direct staff to consider and explore increasing enforcement of City of Vancouver by-laws as soon as possible, in the interest of maintaining standards that meet Vancouver Coastal Health and the Provincial Health Authority standards for cleanliness, health and safety, at the expense of the owner.

FURTHER THAT the motion be amended to add G and H as follows:

- G. THAT Council direct staff to work with tenants in the downtown eastside to find a safe, secure and easy way to report infractions or non-compliance of building owners to uphold the Standards of Maintenance By-law No. 5462 .
- H. THAT Council direct staff to examine ways to protect the inventory of low-income Single Room Accommodation (SRA) rental units located in privately owned SRA buildings and consider any further actions the City of Vancouver can take to deter the ability of landlords to convert units or charge rents above income assistance, unless the housing units are subsidized by funding provided by the senior levels of government, non-profit housing operators or charitable organizations.

LOST (Vote No. 05829)

(Councillors Boyle, Carr, Fry, Swanson, Wiebe and Mayor Stewart opposed)

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and LOST (Vote No. 05830) with Councillors Bligh, Boyle, Carr, Fry, Swanson, Wiebe and Mayor Stewart opposed.

7. Strengthening Representative Democratic Practices in Vancouver

At the Council meeting on April 28, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on April 29, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from six speakers in support of, and one speaker opposed to, the recommendations.

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. In democratic theory, representatives are elected to represent the people within jurisdictional boundaries. So, representatives must know what their constituents think in order to best represent the 'will of the people';
2. Under the laws and traditions of Canada, the fundamental principles of representative democracy apply to the City of Vancouver, its elected Council, and the various legislative processes conducted by Council and the City on behalf of the city's constituents and within the City's jurisdictional and physical boundaries;
3. Municipal councils in British Columbia typically have full discretion to set policies, adopt bylaws, and establish direction for their communities, in accordance with legislation and other legal rules, and they do so within the established principles and traditions of representative democracy and consistent with the Canadian democratic tradition;⁶
4. The *Vancouver Charter* lays out the boundaries of the city, as well as the electoral process by which our representatives are elected, and responsibilities to the inhabitants of the City.
5. In a representative democracy, all eligible citizens have the right to participate, either directly or indirectly, in making the decisions that affect them, most

⁶ The City of Vancouver, as with other municipalities in British Columbia, is empowered to control land use and development within the city through a variety of processes and tools, and is also responsible for providing essential municipal infrastructure and services including drinking water, roads, fire protection, and sewage collection and treatment.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/facts-framework/systems/municipalities?keyword=municipal>

commonly by voting in an election and/or by making their views known to their elected officials on issues of importance to them and their community, for example, at Public Hearings of Council;⁷

6. In order to ensure that constituent and community feedback is fully, fairly, and transparently articulated and considered, it is incumbent in a representative democracy to ensure that the will of the people, as expressed by its constituents through the various feedback mechanisms and processes in place, is accurately and fairly presented;
7. To be effective stewards of the City and best represent constituents, members of a City Council must receive and consider feedback representing a wide range of views obtained through a variety of means and processes. Specifically:
 - in person (e.g. at public hearings and from delegations to Council)
 - on paper (e.g. letters, petitions)
 - online (e.g. emails, online petitions, social media)
8. Public Hearings are a quasi-judicial process of Council where, at the start of a public hearing, the City Clerk reads a summary of the application under consideration along with a summary of correspondence received. For example, the Clerk's opening statement variously takes the form of, "*The following correspondence has been received since referral to public hearing and prior to the close of the speakers list and receipt of public comments: x pieces of correspondence in support and x pieces of correspondence in opposition. This represents all correspondence up to 5:00 PM today.*";
9. The summary of correspondence presented at public hearings and for other Council processes is intended to quantify and convey the level support or opposition to a matter under consideration. Council is reliant on the quality and reliability of the summary information to ensure that the decision making process is sound and sufficiently representative in its scope;

⁷ Sections 22 through 24 of the *Vancouver Charter*, under Division 5 (*Electors*), specifies the eligibility criteria for "resident electors" (i.e., those who live in the city) and "non-resident property electors" (i.e., the registered owner of real property in the city) to vote in a City of Vancouver election, all of whom must be, among other requirements and restrictions, 18 years of age or older on the day of registration or on the general voting day for the election, a Canadian citizen, and a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration or on the general voting day for the election.

Section 38 of the *Vancouver Charter* under Division 5 (Qualifications for Office) lays out the requirements that must be met for holding office on Council or Park Board and states, among other criteria, that the person "must be an individual who is, or who will be on general voting day for the election, 18 years of age or older," a Canadian citizen, and "must have been a resident of British Columbia, as determined in accordance with section 25 [of the Charter], for at least 6 months immediately before the relevant time."

10. Those persons wishing to address Vancouver City Council on a matter, either as a delegation to Council or at a Public Hearing, including through written correspondence, are currently not required to indicate or state where they live in the city, what their home address may be, or whether they may in fact reside in another municipality altogether;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT individuals providing public feedback related to items of Council meetings, Standing Committees, and Public Hearings be requested to state the following:

- Their full name;
- Whether they are a resident of the City of Vancouver, or are non-resident, or if they are homeless; and

FURTHER THAT unregistered migrant and refugee residents are exempt from this policy.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the motion be struck and substituted with the following:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct City staff to prepare and bring back to Council for consideration, at the next possible Council meeting including required notice (May 26, 2020), amendments to the *Procedure By-law* that authorize individuals providing public comments, as speaker, by email, or on paper, related to items of Council meetings, Standing Committees, and Public Hearings be requested to state the following:

- Their full name;
- Whether they are a resident of the City of Vancouver, or are non-resident.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05831)

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During debate on the amended motion, Councillor Bligh rose on a point of order to ask the Chair for a ruling on whether Councillor De Genova's comments were frivolous. The Chair ruled the comments frivolous, and Councillor De Genova stopped the comments.

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Following the Chair's ruling, it was

MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT the meeting be extended to complete the business on the agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Following debate, the amended motion was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 05832), with Councillors Boyle and Wiebe opposed.

The Committee adjourned at 10:06 pm.

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

APRIL 29, 2020

A meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 10:07 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. This Council meeting was convened by electronic means as authorized under the Order of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General of the Province of British Columbia – Emergency Program Act, Ministerial Order No. M083.

PRESENT: Mayor Kennedy Stewart
Councillor Rebecca Bligh
Councillor Christine Boyle
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Lisa Dominato
Councillor Pete Fry
Councillor Colleen Hardwick
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung
Councillor Michael Wiebe

ABSENT: Councillor Melissa De Genova
Councillor Jean Swanson

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk
Terri Burke, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
April 29, 2020

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: COVID-19 Housing Response
2. New Lease for Victoria Drive Community Hall - 2026 East 43rd Avenue
3. Climate Emergency Requirements for New Housing 3-Storeys and Under
4. Original Low Carbon Rezoning Condition for Occupancy of Children's and Women's Hospital
5. Ensuring All Vancouver Residents Can Comply With Public Health Guidance
6. Single Room Occupancy Cleaning Cost Recovery
7. Strengthening Representative Democratic Practices in the City of Vancouver

Items 1 to 7

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of April 29, 2020, as contained in items 1 to 7, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
ITEM 2 BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 10:09 pm.

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