



## REPORT TO COUNCIL

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

APRIL 14, 2021

A meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities was held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 9:32 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, updated Ministerial Order No. M192.

**PRESENT:**

- Councillor Adriane Carr, Chair
- Mayor Kennedy Stewart\* (Leave of absence for Civic Business 9:30 - 11:15 am)
- Councillor Rebecca Bligh
- Councillor Christine Boyle
- Councillor Melissa De Genova\*
- Councillor Lisa Dominato\* (Leave of absence for Civic Business 9 am - 1 pm)
- Councillor Pete Fry
- Councillor Colleen Hardwick
- Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung, Vice-Chair
- Councillor Jean Swanson
- Councillor Michael Wiebe

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Paul Mochrie, Acting City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk  
Denise Swanston, 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 Swanson

THAT the Committee adopt Item 1, on consent.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(Mayor Stewart and Councillor Dominato absent for the vote due to Civic Business)  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

### **1. Funding Application to BC Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping and Flood Mitigation Planning March 15, 2021**

THAT Council approve a funding application to the Union of BC Municipalities' (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping and Flood Mitigation Planning stream for \$150,000 for the Cambie-Fraser River Internal Drainage Flood Mitigation Plan.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 07184)

(Mayor Stewart and Councillor Dominato absent for the vote due to Civic Business)  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

### **2. Seismic Assessments of Existing Rental Buildings March 1, 2021**

Following a brief introduction from Doug Smith, Director of Sustainability, staff from Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, provided a presentation on the item and responded to questions.

*During the first round of questions, it was,*

MOVED by Councillor Boyle

*THAT the Committee enter into a second round of questions on Item 2.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(Mayor Stewart and Councillor Dominato absent for the vote due to Civic Business)  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

The Committee heard from five speakers in opposition to staff's recommendations.

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT pursuant to section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council approve a money grant of up to \$500,000 (the "Grant") from the Multi-Year Capital Budget for the Deep Emission Building Retrofits Program to LandlordBC to expand the

scope of the previously approved Energy Retrofit PLUS Reinvestment Pilot to conduct seismic assessments and retrofit costing as part of the program.

- B. THAT, pursuant to and for the purposes of section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council deems LandlordBC to be contributing to the welfare of Vancouver.
- C. THAT the Grant made to LandlordBC be subject to LandlordBC executing and delivering to the City of Vancouver a grant letter agreement received from the City of Vancouver.
- D. THAT the grant letter agreement executed by LandlordBC be on the terms generally outlined in the Report dated March 1, 2021, entitled "Seismic Assessments of Existing Rental Buildings", and otherwise satisfactory to the City of Vancouver's General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability and the Director of Legal Services.
- E. THAT, on behalf of the City of Vancouver, the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be authorized to execute any grant letter agreement governing the terms of the Grant.
- F. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of A and B above unless and until an actual grant letter agreement is executed and delivered by the City and LandlordBC.

Approval of A and B above constitutes a money grant and therefore requires a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of all Council members pursuant to section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT the following be added to the end as G:

THAT as a condition of this grant, LandlordBC be directed to engage and collaborate with tenant representatives to support this project, while ensuring no displacement and minimal impact on existing tenants.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07182)  
(Mayor Stewart and Councillor Dominato absent for the vote due to Civic Business)  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

POSTPONEMENT MOVED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the Committee postpone voting on Item 2 until after completion of Item 4.

CARRIED (Vote No. 07183)  
(Councillors Hardwick and Swanson opposed)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business)  
(Councillor De Genova absent for the vote)

*At 2:35 pm, following completion of Item 4, the Committee returned to complete Item 2.*

Subsequently, the Committee agreed to sever the components of the motion for the final vote with G being put and CARRIED (Vote No. 07195) with Councillor De Genova opposed; and A-F being put and CARRIED AND A AND B BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 07196) with Councillors Hardwick and Swanson opposed.

#### **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

- A. THAT pursuant to section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council approve a money grant of up to \$500,000 (the “Grant”) from the Multi-Year Capital Budget for the Deep Emission Building Retrofits Program to LandlordBC to expand the scope of the previously approved Energy Retrofit PLUS Reinvestment Pilot to conduct seismic assessments and retrofit costing as part of the program.
- B. THAT, pursuant to and for the purposes of section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council deems LandlordBC to be contributing to the welfare of Vancouver.
- C. THAT the Grant made to LandlordBC be subject to LandlordBC executing and delivering to the City of Vancouver a grant letter agreement received from the City of Vancouver.
- D. THAT the grant letter agreement executed by LandlordBC be on the terms generally outlined in the Report dated March 1, 2021, entitled “Seismic Assessments of Existing Rental Buildings”, and otherwise satisfactory to the City of Vancouver’s General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability and the Director of Legal Services.
- E. THAT, on behalf of the City of Vancouver, the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be authorized to execute any grant letter agreement governing the terms of the Grant.
- F. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of A and B above unless and until an actual grant letter agreement is executed and delivered by the City and LandlordBC.
- G. THAT as a condition of this grant, LandlordBC be directed to engage and collaborate with tenant representatives to support this project, while ensuring no displacement and minimal impact on existing tenants.

### **3. Preserving Bus Ridership During COVID and Beyond (Member’s Motion B.1)**

At the Council meeting on April 13, 2021, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on April 14, 2021, in order to hear from speakers, and debate and decide.

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*At 11:55 am, it was,*

*MOVED by Councillor Boyle*

*THAT the Committee extend past noon to complete hearing from speakers to Item 3.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*(Mayor Stewart and Councillor Dominato absent for the vote due to Civic Business)*

\* \* \* \* \*

The Committee heard from six speakers in support of the motion and one speaker who spoke to other aspects of the motion.

\* \* \* \* \*

*The Committee recessed at 12:05 pm and reconvened at 1:05 pm.*

\* \* \* \* \*

MOVED by Councillor Swanson  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. COVID has drastically reduced transit ridership and rebuilding rider confidence will be challenging;
2. Members of the City's Seniors Advisory Committee do not approve of TransLink's proposal to reduce the number of bus stops from various bus routes because it forces seniors and persons with disabilities to travel farther on foot or on mobility devices to reach their buses, causing hardship to a considerable number of people;
3. The West End Seniors Network and Riley Park South Cambie Community Visions Steering Committee among other organizations are opposed to removing bus stops;
4. While TransLink is consulting with some people on what they call bus line "balancing", many riders who would normally participate in such consultations were following the Provincial Health Officer's instruction to stay home and therefore are not aware of the consultation or the changes;
5. The City of Vancouver should be applying the same equity lens to transit decisions as to all other governmental decisions;

6. The proposals to reduce the number of bus stops fails to recognize that large percentage of the people who use transit have lower incomes with fewer other transportation options; are women and racialized; and
7. The planned fare increase of 2.3% to take effect on July 1 will undermine the goal of increasing ridership and improving equity on transit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct the Mayor to inform TransLink that Vancouver Council recommends that they consult with seniors and disability groups, neighbourhood houses, community centres, and the unions of workers who depend on buses before cutting the number of bus stops.
- B. THAT Council direct the Mayor to ask TransLink to seek other ways of speeding up buses such as bus-only lanes and barring right hand turns by non-bus traffic.
- C. THAT Council direct the Mayor to inform TransLink that Vancouver Council does not support bus fare increases.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT B be struck and replaced as follows:

THAT Council direct staff to report back on progress advancing other ways of speeding up buses such as bus-only lanes and barring right hand turns by non-bus traffic, including any recommendations for accelerating that work, in line with existing direction to improve bus speed and efficiency, and consistent with Climate Emergency Action Plan.

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Swanson

THAT the words "and TransLink" be added after the words "direct staff".

withdrawn

Councillor Swanson requested to withdraw the amendment to the amendment, and the Committee so agreed.

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Swanson

THAT the words "and ask TransLink" be added after the words "direct staff".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07185)  
(Councillors De Genova and Kirby-Yung abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business)

The amendment to the amendment having carried, the amendment as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07186) with Councillors De Genova, Dominato and Kirby-Yung abstaining from the vote and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT clause C be struck.

LOST (Vote No. 07187)  
(Councillors Boyle, Carr, Fry, Hardwick, Swanson and Wiebe opposed)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT in A the following words be struck “and the unions of workers”, and replaced with “lower income and transit reliant workers”.

CARRIED (Vote No. 07188)  
(Councillors Carr and Fry opposed)  
(Councillors Boyle and Swanson abstained from the vote)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Swanson

THAT in A, the words “women’s groups,” be added after the words “neighbourhood houses”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07189)  
(Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business)

The amendments having carried and lost, the Committee agreed to sever the components of the motion for the vote, with A being put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07190) with Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business; B being put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07191) with Councillors De Genova and Kirby-Yung abstaining from the vote and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business; and C being put and CARRIED (Vote No. 07192) with Councillors Bligh, De Genova, Dominato and Kirby-Yung opposed and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote due to Civic Business.

#### **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

- A. THAT Council direct the Mayor to inform TransLink that Vancouver Council recommends that they consult with seniors and disability groups, neighbourhood houses, women’s groups, community centres, lower income and transit reliant workers who depend on buses before cutting the number of bus stops.
- B. THAT Council direct staff and ask TransLink to report back on progress advancing other ways of speeding up buses such as bus-only lanes and barring right hand turns by non-bus traffic, including any recommendations for

accelerating that work, in line with existing direction to improve bus speed and efficiency, and consistent with Climate Emergency Action Plan.

- C. THAT Council direct the Mayor to inform TransLink that Vancouver Council does not support bus fare increases.

*At this point in the proceedings, Councillor Carr relinquished the Chair to Councillor Kirby-Yung as Vice-Chair, in order to participate in debate on Item 4, and resumed the role of Chair when completed.*

#### **4. Joint Vancouver City Council - Vancouver School Board Committee to Collaborate on Capital Projects (Member's Motion B.2)**

At the Council meeting on April 13, 2021, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on April 14, 2021, in order to hear from speakers, and debate and decide.

The Committee heard from one speaker in support of the motion and one speaker with other comments related to the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

#### WHEREAS

1. Wherever relevant, planning in Vancouver should be collaborative between different levels of government;
2. Vancouver School Board (VSB) schools are integral to the city as the means to deliver public education and as neighbourhood hubs for the broader community. The VSB Long-Range Facilities Plan [vsb.bc.ca] (LRFP) outlines facilities management strategies in support of long-term accommodation of projected students in support of educational programs. The educational vision [vsb.bc.ca] of the LRFP is to support student learning and well-being through neighbourhood schools, safe schools, vibrant learning spaces and community partnerships;
3. The recently approved VSB LRFP included this action:  
*The Vancouver Board of Education would like to foster a closer collaborative relationship with the City of Vancouver Council. As such, the Board will request to the COV the establishment of a joint VSB/COV committee to collaborate on advancing VBE (Vancouver Board of Education) capital projects (including LRFP). The committee will consist of 3 Trustees and 3 councillors. The Committee would meet bi-annually with a termination date at the end of November 2022.*

A letter with this request was sent by VSB Chair Cho to the City of Vancouver Mayor and Council on March 1, 2021;



4. A collaborative relationship between the VSB and COV could enhance:
  - a. Planning for new schools/expansions in areas with increasing student populations and community partnerships in undersubscribed schools;
  - b. Locating before-and-after-school and 0-4 childcare at school sites;
  - c. Community partnerships for out-of-school-hours use of school facilities such as gyms, multi-purpose rooms, auditoriums, and grounds, including school fields;
  - d. City-wide consideration for provision of, and equitable access to, public open spaces;
  - e. Affordable housing projects for education sector workers;
  - f. Meeting climate emergency objectives; and
5. In a number of cases, such as at Britannia and Coal Harbour school sites, the VBE capital projects include collaboration not only with the City of Vancouver but also with the Vancouver Parks Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council direct staff to:

- i. Consult with the Vancouver Board of Education and report back for Council's consideration:
  - a. Draft terms of reference for a joint Vancouver City Council-Vancouver School Board committee to collaborate on capital projects; and
  - b. An implementation plan including a budget and expedited timeline to both meet the VSB's timeline and enable incorporation into the City's 2022 Operating Budget;
- ii. Report back to Council with a final report on the outcomes, pros and cons and overall utility of this pilot joint committee, with recommendations regarding follow-up, and forward this report to the Vancouver School Board; and
- iii. Consider the utility of including representatives from the Vancouver Parks Board in this joint committee either during the term of this committee (to the end of November, 2022) and/or in a possible future iteration of this committee.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT i.b. be deleted and replaced with "An implementation plan to meet the VSB's timeline."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07193)

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 07194).

Subsequently, following completion of Item 4, the Committee returned to complete Item 2 (see *page 4*).

The Committee adjourned at 2:39 pm.

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

**APRIL 14, 2021**

A meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 2:40 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:** 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 Jean Swanson  
Councillor Michael Wiebe

**ABSENT:** Councillor Melissa De Genova

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Paul Mochrie, Acting City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk  
Denise Swanston, Meeting Coordinator

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021

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. Funding Application to BC Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping and Flood Mitigation Planning
2. Seismic Assessments of Existing Rental Buildings
3. Preserving Bus Ridership during COVID and Beyond (Member's Motion B.1)
4. Joint Vancouver City Council - Vancouver School Board Committee to Collaborate on Capital Projects (Member's Motion B.2)

Items 1-4

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of April 14, 2021, as contained in items 1-4, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick  
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 2:41 pm.

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