

REPORT

Report Date: April 28, 2021 Contact: Jerry Evans Contact No.: 604-873-7430

RTS No.: 14460 VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-21 Meeting Date: May 18, 2021

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Real Estate and Facilities Management

SUBJECT: Lease of City-Owned Property at 345 Robson Street (Library Square) to

Dr. Payal Jain Inc.

IN CAMERA RATIONALE

This report is recommended for consideration by Council on the In Camera agenda as it relates to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*: (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city;

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council authorize the Director of Real Estate Services to negotiate and execute a Lease (the "Lease") with Dr. Payal Jain Inc. (the "Tenant") for City-owned premises located at 204 – 345 Robson Street, legally described as LOT A BLOCK 56 PLAN LMP19600 DISTRICT LOT 541 NWD GROUP 1, EXCEPT PLAN AIR SPACE PL LMP22595, LIBRARY SQUARE PLAZA ("the "Premises"), on the following terms and conditions:

Term: 10 years commencing February 1, 2022

Area: 1,839 square feet

Minimum Rent: Years 1-3 s.17(1) annually s.17(1) per square foot)

Years 4-7 s.17(1) annually s.17(1) per square foot)
Years 8-10 s.17(1) annually s.17(1) per square foot)

Operating Costs: Year 1 s.17(1) per square foot increasing annually by cost

of living

Use: Full service dental practice

Fixturing Period: \$\frac{\mathbb{s}^{17(1)}}{2}\$ days anticipated to begin no later than October 1,

2021, for the purposes of constructing its tenant

improvements

Cash Allowance: s.17(1) inclusive of GST

Minimum rent free

Period: months (value of s.17(1)), Tenant to pay Operating

Costs during this period

Brokerage

Commission: s.17(1) plus GST

Exclusive: Landlord shall not lease other premises in the building to a

general dentistry practice use

Option to renew: 1 x 5 years at rent to be negotiated on exercise of Option

to renew

Other Terms and

Conditions: The Lease is to be provided on the City's form of lease for

commercial tenants at the Subject Property. Terms and conditions of the Lease are to be drawn to the satisfaction of the Directors of Legal and Real Estate Services, it being noted that no legal right or obligation shall arise until the

Lease is fully executed by both parties.

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to lease the premises at 204 - 345 Robson Street (Library Square) for use as a full service dental practice for a term of 10 years plus an option to renew for a further term of 5 years.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The Director of Real Estate Services, Associate Directors of Real Estate Services, or Supervisor of Property Negotiations can execute Licence Agreements, Month to Month Leases, Offers to Lease, and Leases (the "Commercial Lease"), where the City is either the lessor or lessee, or licensor or licensee, where the total rental or license fee value is less than \$750,000 and the term (including renewal options) is no more than ten (10) years.

Further, the General Manager of Real Estate and Facilities Management or the Director of Finance can approve the material terms of each Commercial Lease, which, in cases where the City is the licensee or lessee, may include a commercially reasonable indemnity in favour of the licensor or lessor.

Total rental value of the Lease and the Renewal Term exceed the total value of \$750,000, which can be approved by the General Manager of Real Estate and Facilities Management or the Director of Finance, and is therefore submitted to Council for approval.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

345 Robson is the City of Vancouver's main library branch. As well as the library itself, the site also includes 14 retail premises spread over 2 floors. The upper level, or second floor, includes 10 retail locations – 3 with external only entrances, and 7 inside the Main Library Atrium. As well, there are 4 locations on the lower level at grade, with direct access from Robson Street. While the library portion of the building is held in the City's Capital Fund, the retail component is held in the Property Endowment Fund ("PEF"), and is intended to generate a fair market return to the City Of Vancouver.

Regular turnover of retail sites is a natural occurrence in most commercial settings. As a result of the previous tenant – a Royal LePage residential real estate office - choosing not to renew their lease of the Premises , Real Estate Services ("RES") undertook marketing to attract a new tenant. Lease terms have been negotiated for a key service use, a dental office, to occupy the Premises and build out a full service dental office to be open in the first quarter of 2022.

Strategic Analysis

A recent retail study focused on Library Square suggested that commercial businesses with a destination focus would provide a strengthened merchandise mix for the property. Dr. Payal Jain, the lead principal dentist for the Tenant, has extensive experience building and operating dental practices both locally as well as in international markets. The business plan provided by the Tenant, coupled with the experience of the operators of the proposed dental clinic, will provide the Library Square commercial component with a key target use that will support the addition of similar complimentary uses for the building.

Current market rental comparable rates confirm that the rents negotiated for the proposed Lease are at the mid to higher end of market.

Financial

The source of funds for the s.17(1) Cash Allowance and s.17(1) Brokerage Commission will be the approved 2021 PEF Capital and Operating Budget.

Finance has reviewed the proposal and confirmed that the proposed 10 year term would result in s.17(1) revenue credited to the PEF should Council approve Recommendation A.

Operating Costs (which include the Tenants' proportional share of Common Area Maintenance, Tax, Insurance and Utilities) are in addition to the Base Rent and will be paid by the Tenant.

CONCLUSION

The Director of Real Estate Services is of the opinion that the rent negotiated is representative of current market rental value for this type, location and age of Premises and recommends approval of the forgoing.

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