

COUNCIL MEMBER'S MOTION

2. Vancouver Civic Theatres Visioning Road Map

Submitted by: Councillor Dominato

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Civic Theatres Board is committed to supporting the vitality, accessibility and financial health of Vancouver's largest suite of city-owned live performance venues as well as its vibrant arts scene;
2. Vancouver Civic Theatres' operations and revenues have been severely impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as has the entire cultural community and downtown core;
3. The Vancouver Civic Theatres Board has embarked on a significant internal visioning process to review and re-imagine the future of these venues;
4. The Vancouver Civic Theatres Board has produced a summary document, "Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map," which outlines the results of this process and presents a preliminary plan for potential next steps for its realization;
5. The Vancouver Civic Theatres Board recognizes this plan reflects an internal visioning process intended to spark dialogue among stakeholders that now needs be shared with the broader for community for input. Further, that this critical stakeholder engagement process is not within the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board's purview;
6. At the Thursday, April 21, 2022, meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board, a motion specific to the Board's visioning process and the 2021 Visioning Road Map was unanimously supported with several recommended follow up actions for Vancouver City Council to consider, namely:
 - *Vancouver City Council reviews and considers the ideas and projects proposed in "Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map" document produced by the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board;*
 - *Vancouver City Council requests that City Management and Cultural Services review the Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map to assess how these projects align with current and future strategies outlined in the City's Culture I Shift plan, and that they develop a budget for initial seed funding to address next steps, including initial stakeholder consultation, feasibility studies, preliminary business planning, and relevant research. These funds could potentially be repaid through funding sources outlined in the Visioning Road Map;*

- *Once the above-noted staff review has been completed, Vancouver City Council appoints a steering committee to explore and lead major performing arts capital projects congruent with the goals outlined in the Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map; and*
 - *Suggested committee membership would include representation from City management, Cultural Services, City Planning, Vancouver Civic Theatres, key performing arts stakeholders, and other members at large with skills and experience in theatre/cultural management, fundraising and development, urban planning and architecture.*
7. The City's cultural ecology and cultural community are evolving and undergoing major changes, many of which are presently under review and/or being addressed by City policies and programs; and
 8. Downtown Vancouver has faced unprecedented challenges as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, which call for a revitalization that renews the City Centre as a compelling area to work, live, and visit, regenerating economic activity and reinforcing our cultural vibrancy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council receive for information and consideration the *Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map* and the related recommendations from the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to review and consider the specific recommendations made by the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board, as outlined in the Board's April 21, 2022, motion and *The Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map*, including consideration of potential opportunities that coincide with and/or could be implemented as part of the City's Culture | Shift Strategy and as part of any future strategies related to arts and culture facilities;

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to report back to Council by the end of Q4 2023 with recommendations and options for Council to consider with respect to the future of Vancouver's civic theatres and the city's performing arts community.

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