



## REPORT TO COUNCIL

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

NOVEMBER 16 AND 22, 2022

A meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Finance and Services was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 9:31 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall. Subsequently, the meeting reconvened on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 3 pm. This Council meeting was convened by electronic means as authorized under the Part 14 of the *Procedure By-law*.

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillor Peter Meiszner, Chair Mayor Ken Sim* (Leave of Absence for Civic Business on November 22, 2022) Councillor Christine Boyle Councillor Adriane Carr Councillor Lisa Dominato* Councillor Pete Fry* Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung Councillor Mike Klassen, Vice-Chair Councillor Brian Montague Councillor Lenny Zhou
<b>ABSENT</b>	Councillor Rebecca Bligh (Leave of Absence for Personal Reasons on November 16, 2022, and Medical Leave on November 22, 2022)
<b>CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:</b>	Paul Mochrie, City Manager Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager (November 16, 2022) Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager (November 22, 2022)
<b>CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:</b>	Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk Kirsty Colquhoun, Meeting Coordinator

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

### WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh People. 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 Carr

THAT Council adopt items 2 through 8, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 1. **2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists, Spaces) October 18, 2022**

Staff from Planning, Arts, Culture and Community Services provided an introduction and responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council, in support of its *Culture|Shift* goals, approve thirteen Cultural Equity grants totalling \$316,000 from the 2022 Cultural Grants Operating Budget to the organizations listed in Appendix A of the Report dated October 18, 2022, entitled “2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists, Spaces)” and for the amounts recommended for each organization in the “Recomm.” Column in Appendix A of the above-noted Report.
- B. THAT Council, in support of its *Culture|Shift* goals and the City’s UNDRIP Strategy, approve nine Cultural Indigenous grants totalling \$280,000 from the 2022 Cultural Grants Operating Budget to the organizations listed in Appendix A of the Report dated October 18, 2022, entitled “2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists, Spaces)” and for the amounts recommended for each organization in the “Recomm.” Column in Appendix A of the above-noted Report.
- C. THAT Council approve a grant of \$60,000 from the 2022 Cultural Grants Operating Budget to The Art Starts in Schools Society for renewal and delivery of the Creative Spark Vancouver program, which supports diverse artists working with youth.
- D. THAT Council, in support of its *Culture|Shift* and *Making Space for Arts and Culture* goals, approve five Affordable Spaces grants totalling \$74,010 from the 2022 Cultural Grants Operating Budget to the organizations listed in Appendix A of the Report dated October 18, 2022, entitled “2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists, Spaces)” and for the amounts recommended for each organization in the “Recomm.” Column in Appendix B of the above-noted Report.
- E. THAT Council, in support of its *Making Space for Arts and Culture* goals, approve eighteen Small Grants for Cultural Spaces totaling \$325,000 from the remaining 2022 Cultural Spaces Capital Budget and re-allocation from previous unused or unallocated budget to the organizations listed in Appendix B of the Report dated October 18, 2022, entitled “2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists,

Spaces)” and for the amounts recommended for each organization in the “Recomm” column in Appendix B of the above-noted report.

- F. THAT Council delegate its authority to execute grant agreements that include terms and conditions that are consistent with this report, that satisfy the City’s Director of Legal Services, and that disburse the grants described in this report to the City’s General Manager of Arts, Culture, and Community Services (or their designate).
- G. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council’s adoption of these Recommendations unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.
- H. THAT, pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council deems any organization listed in Appendix A and Appendix B of the Report dated October 18, 2022, entitled “2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists, Spaces)” that is not otherwise a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency to be contributing to the culture of Vancouver.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08860)

**2. 2022 Supportive Housing Integration Grants  
November 1, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve Supportive Housing Integration Grants totalling \$84,000 from the 2022 ACCS Operating Budget to eight organizations as outlined in Appendix A of the Report dated November 1, 2022, entitled “2022 Supportive Housing Integration Grants”.
- B. THAT all grants be subject to each approved recipient organization signing and returning a grant approval letter to the City agreeing in writing to its terms.
- C. THAT grant approval letters be on the terms generally outlined in the report and otherwise satisfactory to the General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services and the Director of Legal Services.
- D. THAT the General Manager of Arts, Culture, and Community Services be authorized to execute all grant approval letters on behalf of the City of Vancouver.
- E. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council’s adoption of A of the Report dated November 1, 2022, entitled “2022 Supportive Housing Integration Grants”, unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08861)

**3. Vancouver Civic Theatres Rental Rates 2023-2024  
October 20, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve the recommended rental rates and fee increases for commercial licensees, which are outlined in the Summary of Commercial Rental Rates for Vancouver Civic Theatres that is attached to this report as Appendix A of the Report dated October, 20 2022, entitled "Vancouver Civic Theatres Rental Rates 2023-2024".
- B. THAT Council approve the recommended rental rates and fee increases for not-for-profit organizations, Theatre Rental Grant recipients, and VCT Grant recipients, which are outlined in the Summary of Not-for-Profit and Grant Rental Rates for Vancouver Civic Theatres that is attached to this report as Appendix B of the Report dated October, 20 2022, entitled "Vancouver Civic Theatres Rental Rates 2023-2024".

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08862)

**4. Vancouver Civic Theatres Activating Spaces Grant 2023  
October 20, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize Vancouver Civic Theatres (VCT) staff to maintain an annual grant program to animate non-commercial VCT spaces and enhance their profile, subject to a maximum expenditure of \$200,000 for 2023 to be included in the annual VCT budget.
- B. THAT Council authorize staff to allocate a maximum of \$200,000 in 2023 to organizations meeting the criteria outlined in this report and specified in the VCT Grant Information Guide 2022 attached as Appendix A of the Report dated October 20, 2022, entitled "Vancouver Civic Theatres Activating Spaces Grant 2023".
- C. THAT pursuant to Section 206 (1) (j) of the Vancouver Charter, Council deems any organization receiving a grant under this program from January 1 2023-December 31, 2023 that is not otherwise a charity registered with the Canada Revenue Agency, to be contributing to the culture of Vancouver.
- D. THAT the General Manager of Arts Culture and Community Services (GM of ACCS) (or their designate), is authorized to negotiate and execute agreements, to disburse the grants described in this report on the terms and conditions generally set out below, and on such other terms and conditions as are satisfactory to the GM of ACCS (or their designate), and the Director of Legal Services.

- E. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of A above unless and until the applicable theatre license agreement is complete and approved by the City in accordance with C above and executed and delivered by both the grant recipient and GM of ACCS (or their designate).

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08863)

**5. Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant – Fall 2022 Intake  
October 31, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve 16 new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants totaling \$89,050 as outlined in the body of this report to each organization listed in Table 1 under the column entitled “Organization” and for the amount set out beside their name in the column entitled “Grant Recommended”; source of funding is the 2022 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Program Budget.
- B. THAT the grants in A be subject to each grant recipient agreeing to the terms and conditions of the community sport hosting grant program as generally outlined in this report and otherwise satisfactory to the Senior Manager, Sport Hosting Vancouver and the City Solicitor.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of the A and C above unless and until the grant agreement letter is executed and delivered by the grant recipient.
- D. THAT, pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the Vancouver Charter, the organizations listed in Table 1 which are not otherwise a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency are deemed by Council to be an organization contributing to the culture, beautification, health, or welfare of the City.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08864)

**6. Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Demolition Permit for 172 East Cordova and  
307 Main St.  
October 21, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve two Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Demolition Permits in accordance with the Single Room Accommodation (SRA) By-law to allow for the demolition of 9 SRA-designated rooms at 307 Main Street and 11 SRA-designated rooms at 172 East Cordova. The rooms will be replaced with an 11-storey mixed use building containing 118 self-contained social housing units,

including 40 self-contained units designated for singles that will rent at the shelter component of income assistance (currently \$375 per month).

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08865)

**7. Contract Award for the South Kinross Park Construction  
October 18, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize City staff to enter into a contract with Cedar Crest Lands (BC) Ltd., for construction of South Kinross Park in the East Fraser Lands community in southeast Vancouver, for a term of 1 year or until services are complete with an estimated contract value of \$2,098,900.00 plus GST over the term of the project, to be funded from the 2019-2022 Capital Plan.
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services, Chief Procurement Officer and General Manager of Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation be authorized to execute on behalf of the City the contract contemplated by A above.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of A and B above unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in these Recommendations.
- D. THAT subject to A being approved, Council designate the properties in Appendix B of the Report dated October 18, 2022, entitled, "Contract Award for the South Kinross Park Construction", (the "Subject Lands") as Permanent Public Park in accordance with Section 488(5)(a) of the Vancouver Charter to be under the exclusive possession of, and exclusive jurisdiction and control of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation ("Park Board").

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08866)

**8. Contract Award for Security Services  
October 20, 2022**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize City staff to negotiate to the satisfaction of the City's Chief Procurement Officer, Chief Safety Officer and Director of Legal Services, and on that basis to enter into a contract with Paladin Security Group Limited ("Paladin") for the provision of security guard and security systems support services to the City for a period of five (5) years, with an estimated total cost for such services during that period of \$29,950,493 plus applicable taxes, and with options for the City to extend the term of the contract for two additional periods of

two (2) years each. Source of funding to be the City's annual operating and capital budgets.

- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services, Chief Procurement Officer and Chief Safety Officer be authorized to execute on behalf of the City the contract contemplated by A above.
- C. THAT Council authorize City staff to negotiate to the satisfaction of the City's Chief Procurement Officer, Director of Legal Services and the Chief Librarian for Vancouver Public Library ("VPL"), and on that basis to enter into a contract with Securiguard Services Limited ("Securiguard") for the provision of security guard services to the VPL for a period of five (5) years, with an estimated total cost for such services during that period of \$6,724,092 plus applicable taxes to be funded by way of the City's annual operating and capital budgeting processes, and with options for the VPL to extend the term of the contract for two additional periods of two (2) years each.
- D. THAT the Director of Legal Services, Chief Procurement Officer, and Chief Librarian of Vancouver Public Library be authorized to execute on behalf of the City the contract contemplated by C above.
- E. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of Recommendations above unless and until such contracts, respectively, are executed by the authorized signatories of the City and the Vancouver Public Library as set out in these Recommendations.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 08867)

**9. Adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism (Member's Motion B.2)**

At the Council meeting on November 15, 2022, Council referred the above-noted motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 16, 2022, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

The Committee heard from 17 speakers in support of the motion and 40 speakers in opposition of the motion.

\* \* \* \* \*

*On November 16, 2022, during the hearing of speakers, the Committee recessed at 12 pm and reconvened at 1:02 pm.*

*Prior to debate on the motion, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung*

*THAT the meeting extend past 5 pm to complete item 9.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

\* \* \* \* \*

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver is committed to advancing reconciliation, equity, and anti-racism for all people in Vancouver and committed to combatting all forms of hatred, including antisemitism. The City continually strives for improvement and to work toward a fairer, safer, more inclusive city;
2. January 27 is designated by the United Nations General Assembly as International Holocaust Remembrance Day; i
3. On May 26, 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Plenary, of which the Government of Canada is a permanent member, adopted the working definition of antisemitism and its list of illustrative examples;
4. On June 25, 2019, the Government of Canada adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of Antisemitism (IHRA Definition of Antisemitism);
5. At the July 23, 2019, regular Vancouver City Council meeting, a motion was introduced calling for the City to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism and list of illustrative examples ("*Combatting Antisemitism in Vancouver*");
6. The motion ("*Combatting Antisemitism in Vancouver*") was referred to the City's Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee to provide recommendations to Council on how the City of Vancouver can increase action to combat all forms of racism and hatred, including Antisemitism, with further direction to staff to work with the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee and report back with recommendations "as soon as possible, or by early 2020."; ii
7. Every person in the City of Vancouver has the right to realize their potential without fear of discrimination, and to live in conditions of dignity, respect; and peace;
8. Antisemitism is on the rise around the world, and antisemitic and anti-Jewish hate has flourished in the digital age;
9. Statistics Canada reports that members of the Jewish community are the most frequently targeted religious minority group when it comes to police-reported hate crimes in 2021. Anti-Jewish hate crimes include beatings, vandalism of synagogues, racist slurs, harassment, intimidation and the plastering of swastikas at schools;



10. In response to the rise of antisemitism and anti-Jewish hate crimes, on July 21, 2021, the Government of Canada and the Honourable Irwin Cotler, Canada's Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism, convened the National Antisemitism Summit to identify ways in which organizations, communities, individuals, and the federal government can work together to increase public awareness, enhance community security, combat misinformation and online hate and identify new measures necessary to combat antisemitism;
11. In June 2022, the Province of BC started working with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism. In a letter sent to the Pacific region office at the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) in Vancouver, BC Premier John Horgan wrote:  
  
*"Our government understands that systemic racism looks different for different communities and that it can change over time... We also understand that to effectively combat one of the world's oldest forms of hatred, we must first clearly identify it. In this light, we see the IHRA definition as an important non-legally binding educational tool to help us determine what is and what is not antisemitic, which allows us to work toward a society that is better for all British Columbians."*
12. More recently, on October 14, 2022, the Government of Canada reiterated its strong condemnation of the alarming rise of antisemitism at home and abroad and committed to countering online antisemitism by introducing new legislation, along with strengthening the Canada Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code;
13. The City of Vancouver website states: "As we continue to develop our anti-racism and equity strategies to ensure that Vancouver is a more inclusive and fair place, it is more important than ever that the lessons learned and the horrors of the Holocaust remain present in the public consciousness so they are never repeated."; iii
14. To date, and in the face of the alarming global increase in antisemitism and anti-Jewish hate and the significant and meaningful actions taken by the federal and provincial governments, the City's actions are not as emphatic or supportive as the situation demands. In the face of ongoing and increasing antisemitism, Council should take a strong stance to combat antisemitism in our city and provide the practical tools, such as the IHRA non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism, to identify antisemitism when and wherever it manifests in our community.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the City of Vancouver adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism and list of illustrative examples, as adopted by the IHRA plenary on May 26, 2016, and the Government of Canada in June 2019, which reads:

*"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism*

*are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”*

- B. THAT Council direct staff to share this motion and the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism with the Vancouver Police Board, Vancouver Public Library, Vancouver Park Board and Vancouver School Board for their review and consideration as an additional practical and educational tool, in addition to any existing working definitions, in identifying antisemitism.

Source: <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/working-definition-antisemitism>

\* \* \* \* \*

<sup>i</sup> Since 2005, the United Nations and its member states have held commemoration ceremonies to mark the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and to honour the victims and the survivors of the Holocaust. The purpose of this Day is to commemorate the victims of the Nazi regime, and to promote Holocaust education throughout the world.

<sup>ii</sup> The stated purpose of an August 2022 staff memo to Mayor and Council, which followed up on a March 2021 Anti-Racism and Cultural Redress update to Mayor and Council, was to provide an update on the development of an anti-racism action plan as directed through Council motion 13927: Standing Up to the Rise in Anti-Asian Racism, All Racism & Hate Crimes 13927 (Nov 2020). The work to address the Council motion 13367: Combatting Anti-Semitism in Vancouver 13367 (Jul 2019) was included as part of this effort. <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/2022-08-05-cm-update-on-anti-racism-strategy.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> In 2020, Mayor and Council passed a motion that the International Holocaust Remembrance Day would become one of Vancouver’s official observances.

\* \* \* \* \*

CARRIED (Vote No. 08868)  
(Councillor Boyle opposed)  
(Councillors Carr and Fry abstained from the vote)

\* \* \* \* \*

*On November 16, 2022, the Committee recessed at 5:10 pm and reconvened at 6:18 pm.*

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## **10. Urgent Measures to Uplift Vancouver’s Chinatown (Member’s Motion B.3)**

At the Council meeting on November 15, 2022, Council referred the above-noted motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 16, 2022, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

The Committee heard from four speakers in support of the motion, one speaker in opposition of the motion, and two speakers speaking to other aspects of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

#### WHEREAS

1. Vancouver's Chinatown is a cultural gem and holds an irreplaceable place in the fabric of our city and in the hearts and minds of Vancouver residents;
2. Historically, Vancouver's Chinatown community was established before the city was even incorporated and is considered to be the largest Chinatown in Canada. It has been a designated National Historic Site since June 2010;
3. Symbolic of the resilience and strength of Chinatown and Chinese Canadians in the face of adversity, are the 20<sup>th</sup> century's two world wars where Chinese Canadians fought for a country where they could not vote, where they had been the target of race riots spurred by anti-Asian sentiment, and been subjected to discriminatory policies from all three levels of government including: the Chinese head tax, a freeway plan that would have paved over Chinatown, and even a federal order to ban the sale of delectable Chinese barbecued meats;
4. In April 2018, Vancouver City Council officially apologized to the Chinese Canadian community, recognizing the historical discrimination against Chinese People in Vancouver, and committed to conserving, commemorating, and enhancing the living heritage and cultural assets of the community;
5. In recent years, Vancouver's Chinatown has been hit by – and struggled with – challenges ranging from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to ongoing anti-Asian hate in the city. Anti-Asian hate crime incidents saw a 400 percent increase from 2018 to 2022 YTD, with violent assaults and random attacks on local seniors, ongoing safety concerns, and increasing graffiti and vandalism impacting small businesses, cultural organizations, and institutions;
6. According to a preliminary report to Council by City staff, vacancy rates have increased in Chinatown by 23.7 percent compared to pre-pandemic levels, hitting 17 percent relative to the Vancouver citywide average of 10 percent. Broken windows are common, and nuisance and damaging graffiti are now a constant that shopkeepers and building owners cannot keep up with (yet many were further challenged by punitive City by-laws that levy fines if graffiti is not removed quickly enough);
7. The economic survival and vibrancy of the Chinatown community is being hindered by these issues that are not being suitably addressed, and the impacts are being felt by area residents, small businesses, cultural organizations, locals, and visitors alike;
8. Without immediate action, more than 700 small businesses and arts and culture organizations that operate in Chinatown are very much at risk. Many are culturally relevant or legacy businesses, such as the community hub Goldstone Bakery and Restaurant which recently closed after 30+ years of operation. The

character and the customs of these businesses that could soon be lost forever are what make Chinatown what it is. Collectively they comprise the unique, intangible qualities and living cultural heritage upon which the contemplated UNESCO World Heritage Site designation hinges;

9. Recently, the Vancouver Police Foundation supported a visit of representatives and community leaders to San Francisco's Chinatown in order to learn firsthand how this historic neighbourhood had overcome similar challenges to those faced by Vancouver's Chinatown. City of Vancouver staff were invited to be part of that initiative. The findings the delegation identified highlighted the fact that the success in addressing the problems of San Francisco's Chinatown was built on strong partnerships between local community groups, the San Francisco police department, and the City of San Francisco Public Works department, as well as through the establishment of clearly defined programs, communications protocols, and resource allocation;
10. Specifically, San Francisco set about tackling issues in their Chinatown through a multi-pronged approach including:
  - Alley beautification
  - Graffiti response & mural programs
  - Clean-up efforts
  - Volunteerism and community initiatives
11. Success in San Francisco was achieved by explicitly directing that City sanitation and cleaning resources be stepped up and dedicated to the initiative, including activities such as weekly power washing of sidewalks and alleys, enhanced cleaning and needle pick-up, placemaking through beautification of alleys and art projects with local artists, removal of punitive by-laws that fine businesses for not removing nuisance graffiti quickly enough, shifting to a help-centered approach with a dedicated number to call the City's Public Works for assistance, and volunteer groups that would do patrols and also help with cleanup and other efforts;
12. Vancouver's Chinatown is a cultural gem under siege. Rectifying the situation requires immediate leadership from Vancouver City Hall in partnership with the local community to invest in and support uplifting Chinatown to help return vibrancy to this important neighbourhood.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to report back by the first regular Council meeting in January 2023 with a draft action plan to support urgent measures to uplift Chinatown, including engaging with the VPD and community leaders regarding the San Francisco experience to inform the action plan;

FURTHER THAT the plan to uplift Chinatown shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations for enhanced support from Streets & Engineering including robust street, alley, and sidewalk cleaning, litter and needle pick-up, new graffiti removal strategies, place-making, new murals or local artwork, as well as

outreach opportunities that include local community groups in graffiti clean-ups, safe walks, and seniors support.

- B. THAT the above direction to staff in A above, identify the required resources from the 2023 Operating Budget, and that consideration be given to extending the impact of these resources through use of the Community Stewards Program and engagement with the Chinese Policing Centre.
- C. THAT staff report back as soon as possible on potential by-law changes to remove or waive fines to property owners and businesses that are repeat victims of nuisance and damaging graffiti.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to establish a satellite City office in Chinatown, such as within the City-owned Chinatown Plaza, or within another City-owned property or reasonable alternative, to provide Mayor and Council with the ability to work from the space and meet with community members as desired.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry,

THAT the following be added to the motion, as A:

AND FURTHER THAT the plan to uplift Chinatown shall include, but not be limited to populations with intersecting lived experiences in the neighbourhood: seniors, new immigrants, residents of single room occupancy hotels, Urban Indigenous people, LGBTQIA2S+, people experiencing poverty, people experiencing homelessness, and people who use drugs; with an explicit goal to return vibrancy and safety to the community without exclusion or displacement of vulnerable residents.

LOST (Vote No. 08869)

(Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung, Klassen, Meiszner, Montague, Zhou and Mayor Sim opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry,

THAT the following be added to the motion, as E:

THAT staff report back on possible changes to neighbourhood transportation policies and practices in terms of people and goods movement with specific reference to pickup, delivery, and parking that is supportive of neighbourhood retail activities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08870)

The amendment having carried unanimously, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08871)

## **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver's Chinatown is a cultural gem and holds an irreplaceable place in the fabric of our city and in the hearts and minds of Vancouver residents;
2. Historically, Vancouver's Chinatown community was established before the city was even incorporated and is considered to be the largest Chinatown in Canada. It has been a designated National Historic Site since June 2010;
3. Symbolic of the resilience and strength of Chinatown and Chinese Canadians in the face of adversity, are the 20<sup>th</sup> century's two world wars where Chinese Canadians fought for a country where they could not vote, where they had been the target of race riots spurred by anti-Asian sentiment, and been subjected to discriminatory policies from all three levels of government including: the Chinese head tax, a freeway plan that would have paved over Chinatown, and even a federal order to ban the sale of delectable Chinese barbecued meats;
4. In April 2018, Vancouver City Council officially apologized to the Chinese Canadian community, recognizing the historical discrimination against Chinese People in Vancouver, and committed to conserving, commemorating, and enhancing the living heritage and cultural assets of the community;
5. In recent years, Vancouver's Chinatown has been hit by – and struggled with – challenges ranging from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to ongoing anti-Asian hate in the city. Anti-Asian hate crime incidents saw a 400 percent increase from 2018 to 2022 YTD, with violent assaults and random attacks on local seniors, ongoing safety concerns, and increasing graffiti and vandalism impacting small businesses, cultural organizations, and institutions;
6. According to a preliminary report to Council by City staff, vacancy rates have increased in Chinatown by 23.7 percent compared to pre-pandemic levels, hitting 17 percent relative to the Vancouver citywide average of 10 percent. Broken windows are common, and nuisance and damaging graffiti are now a constant that shopkeepers and building owners cannot keep up with (yet many were further challenged by punitive City by-laws that levy fines if graffiti is not removed quickly enough);
7. The economic survival and vibrancy of the Chinatown community is being hindered by these issues that are not being suitably addressed, and the impacts are being felt by area residents, small businesses, cultural organizations, locals, and visitors alike;
8. Without immediate action, more than 700 small businesses and arts and culture organizations that operate in Chinatown are very much at risk. Many are culturally relevant or legacy businesses, such as the community hub Goldstone Bakery and Restaurant which recently closed after 30+ years of operation. The character and the customs of these businesses that could soon be lost forever are what make Chinatown what it is. Collectively they comprise the unique, intangible qualities and living cultural heritage upon which the contemplated UNESCO World Heritage Site designation hinges;

9. Recently, the Vancouver Police Foundation supported a visit of representatives and community leaders to San Francisco's Chinatown in order to learn firsthand how this historic neighbourhood had overcome similar challenges to those faced by Vancouver's Chinatown. City of Vancouver staff were invited to be part of that initiative. The findings the delegation identified highlighted the fact that the success in addressing the problems of San Francisco's Chinatown was built on strong partnerships between local community groups, the San Francisco police department, and the City of San Francisco Public Works department, as well as through the establishment of clearly defined programs, communications protocols, and resource allocation;
10. Specifically, San Francisco set about tackling issues in their Chinatown through a multi-pronged approach including:
  - Alley beautification
  - Graffiti response & mural programs
  - Clean-up efforts
  - Volunteerism and community initiatives
11. Success in San Francisco was achieved by explicitly directing that City sanitation and cleaning resources be stepped up and dedicated to the initiative, including activities such as weekly power washing of sidewalks and alleys, enhanced cleaning and needle pick-up, placemaking through beautification of alleys and art projects with local artists, removal of punitive by-laws that fine businesses for not removing nuisance graffiti quickly enough, shifting to a help-centered approach with a dedicated number to call the City's Public Works for assistance, and volunteer groups that would do patrols and also help with cleanup and other efforts;
12. Vancouver's Chinatown is a cultural gem under siege. Rectifying the situation requires immediate leadership from Vancouver City Hall in partnership with the local community to invest in and support uplifting Chinatown to help return vibrancy to this important neighbourhood.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to report back by the first regular Council meeting in January 2023 with a draft action plan to support urgent measures to uplift Chinatown, including engaging with the VPD and community leaders regarding the San Francisco experience to inform the action plan;  
  
FURTHER THAT the plan to uplift Chinatown shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations for enhanced support from Streets & Engineering including robust street, alley, and sidewalk cleaning, litter and needle pick-up, new graffiti removal strategies, place-making, new murals or local artwork, as well as outreach opportunities that include local community groups in graffiti clean-ups, safe walks, and seniors support.
- B. THAT the above direction to staff in "A" identify the required resources from the 2023 Operating Budget, and that consideration be given to extending the impact

of these resources through use of the Community Stewards Program and engagement with the Chinese Policing Centre.

- C. THAT staff report back as soon as possible on potential by-law changes to remove or waive fines to property owners and businesses that are repeat victims of nuisance and damaging graffiti.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to establish a satellite City office in Chinatown, such as within the City-owned Chinatown Plaza, or within another City-owned property or reasonable alternative, to provide Mayor and Council with the ability to work from the space and meet with community members as desired.
- E. THAT staff report back on possible changes to neighbourhood transportation policies and practices in terms of people and goods movement with specific reference to pickup, delivery, and parking that is supportive of neighbourhood retail activities.

**11. Enabling the Requisitioning and Hiring of 100 New Police Officers and 100 Mental Health Nurses (Member's Motion B.5)**

At the Council meeting on November 15, 2022, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 16, 2022, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

The Committee heard from 14 speakers in opposition to the motion, and five speakers speaking to other aspects of the motion.

\* \* \* \* \*

*On November 16, 2022, during the hearing of speakers, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung*

*THAT Council complete hearing of speakers for item 11 and 12 and refer debate and decision on items 11 and 12 to the reconvening of the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 22, 2022 at 3 pm.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY**

*Subsequently, during the hearing of speakers, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Dominato,*

*THAT the Committee extend past 10 pm to complete hearing from speakers.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY**



*On November 16, 2022, the Committee recessed at 10:02 pm and reconvened on November 22, 2022 at 3 pm.*

\* \* \* \* \*

MOVED by Councillor Dominato

WHEREAS

1. Mental illness and addictions are experienced by residents from all corners of the city;
2. The Vancouver Police Department (VPD) has a number of successful Mental Health Initiatives to serve people living with mental illness. For more than 40 years the VPD has partnered with Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to help improve the quality of life for mutual clients living with mental illness, substance use, and addiction;
3. The VPD collaboration with VCH and other community partner aims to reduce harm to both clients and the community, and to reduce a client's involvement with the criminal justice system, law enforcement, and emergency health services, by providing a coordinated response;
4. The VPD's mental health initiatives and partnerships include (but are not limited to):
  - **Car 87/88 – Mental Health Cars** – VPD officers partner with mental health professionals to provide assessments and intervention for people living with mental illness. Specially-trained officers in plainclothes team up with psychiatric nurses seven days a week and respond to requests from patrol officers and Assertive Outreach Team members for mental health assistance. They determine the most appropriate action in each case, which can include immediate referrals for community-based mental health services or emergency intervention.
  - **Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams** – A small group of clients have repeated and frequent use of the emergency medical system and extensive contact with police. They also encounter barriers to housing and employment. It makes living in the community challenging. ACT teams provide full-service mental health programs and “wrap-around” care for clients with a history of complex mental health issues. The teams help clients transition to traditional community-based care. Teams are 10 to 12 people, and include police officers, nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, and vocational counsellors.
  - **Assertive Outreach Team (AOT)** – While ACT addresses the most high-risk, high-needs clients through long-term, wrap-around services, the Assertive Outreach Team (AOT) provides short-term bridging services to clients to help them transition from hospital or jail to longer-term community-based services, such as ACT. VPD officers collaborate with

Vancouver Coastal Health psychiatrists, nurses, and clinical supervisors to reduce incidents of violence and self-harm, prevent further deterioration in quality of life, and reduce involvement with the criminal justice system.

- **VPD Mental Health Unit** – The VPD Mental Health Unit works to reduce the number of people cycling through the criminal justice system as a result of untreated mental health disorders. The Unit works with Vancouver Coastal Health Mental Health clinical staff. Together, they ensure a coordinated response.
5. On December 8, 2020, Council approved a net VPD budget of \$316,079,342 plus \$300,000 in separate funding for CPCs, resulting in a VPD budget shortfall of \$5,689,974 for 2021. The VPD quantified this funding shortfall as being equivalent to 61 police recruits, or 4.5% of the VPD's authorized sworn strength;
  6. On March 8, 2021, the Police Board appealed to the Province's Director of Police Services for a review of Council's decision under section 27(3) of the Police Act;
  7. In March 2022, B.C.'s Director of Police Services, Wayne Rideout, ruled that the Vancouver Police Department should not have been denied the additional \$5.7 million it requested in December 2020 to fully fund its 2021 operating budget;
  8. The nature, scope, and magnitude of the mental health and addiction crisis facing Vancouver requires a significant and substantial increase in supports and actions to improve the quality of life for those living with mental illness, substance use, and addiction in our city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council empower the Mayor to write to the Vancouver Police Board (VPB) and the Board of Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) on behalf of Council to formally advise of Council's intention to make funding available to the Vancouver Police Board and VCH to enable the requisitioning and hiring of 100 new police officers and 100 mental health nurses to support various mental health initiatives and partnerships between the two agencies;

FURTHER THAT copies of the Mayor's letters be sent to the senior management of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) and VCH, the Vancouver Police Union, local Indigenous Governments, and other relevant partners and stakeholders.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to allocate an initial block of funding in the City's 2023 operating budget in the amount of \$4.5 million to enable the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) to requisition and hire new police officers. Such funding will be made available to the VPD on or after January 1, 2023 subject to Council's acceptance of plan from the VPD for hiring and deploying the additional police officers to enhance and expand mental health initiatives and partnerships between VPD and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), such as the Car 87/88 program, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams and Assertive Outreach

Team (AOT). The interim funding source for the \$4.5M allocation will be the general revenue stabilization reserve, with the final funding source to be identified by Council in the 2023 operating budget.

- C. THAT Council direct staff to allocate an initial block of funding in the City's 2023 operating budget in the amount of \$1.5 million to enable Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to requisition and hire new nurses. The funding will be made available to VCH on or after January 1, 2023 subject to agreement between the City and VCH on a plan for use of the funds to hire additional nurses to enhance and expand mental health initiatives and partnerships between VCH and the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), such as the Car 87/88 program, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams and Assertive Outreach Team (AOT). The interim funding source for the \$1.5M allocation will be the general revenue stabilization reserve, with the final funding source to be identified by Council in the 2023 operating budget.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT, in A, the letter "s" after the word "letter" be struck;

FURTHER THAT B be amended as follows:

- The words "an initial" be struck and replaced with the words "a full";
- The words "\$8 million, inclusive of any provincial or federal government funding that may be available," be inserted in between the words "amount of" and "to enable";
- The number "\$4.5M be struck and replaced with "8 million";

FURTHER THAT C be amended as follows:

- The words "an initial" be struck and replaced with the words "a full";
- The words "up to \$8 million, inclusive of any provincial or federal government funding that may be available," be inserted in between the words "amount of" and "to enable";
- The number "\$1.5M be struck and replaced with "8 million";

AND FUTHER THAT the following be added to the motion, as D and E:

- D. THAT Council direct staff to work with their counterparts at Vancouver Coastal Health and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) to explore options and opportunities to implement CMHA's Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACT) in Vancouver, as part of the Province's Safer Communities Action Plan or otherwise, to serve as a complementary mental health service to existing VCH and VPD mental health partnerships, in consultation with stakeholders and other relevant partners, and

FURTHER THAT Council direct the City Manager to write to the Province to formally request that Vancouver be considered as a location for one of the 12 new Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs) being created under the Safer Communities Action Plan, and further that staff report back to Council in Q1 of 2023 with a memo and/or presentation to update Council on potential next steps Council may wish to entertain as follow up actions or direction to staff.

- E. THAT Council empower the Mayor to write to Premier David Eby on behalf of Council to thank the Province for the immediate steps being taken under the newly-announced Safer Communities Action Plan, which seeks to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone, including concrete steps at the provincial level to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers, and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach, and

FURTHER THAT the Mayor's letter to the Premier shall include a statement of Council's support for the 10 additional Indigenous justice centres announced by the Premier as part of the Safer Communities Action Plan, the first five of which are set to open next year to better support Indigenous Peoples in urban and metropolitan areas and further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples.

Following discussion on the amendments, the Committee agreed to separate the vote on the components of the amendment with A, B and C being put and CARRIED (Vote No. 08874) with Councillors Boyle, Carr, Fry and Meiszner opposed.

\* \* \* \* \*

*At this point in the proceedings, prior to voting on D and E, it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Dominato*

*THAT the Committee reconsider the vote on A, B and C.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08875)  
(Councillor Boyle abstained from the vote)*

*Following the reconsideration, A, B and C were put and CARRIED (Vote No. 08876) with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed; D and E were put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08877).*

\* \* \* \* \*

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT A be amended as follows:

- The words “and the Board of Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH)” be struck;
- The words “and VCH” in between the words “Board” and “to” be struck;
- The words “Contingent on Vancouver Coastal Health funding” be inserted between with word “officers” and “100”;
- The word “and” before “100” be struck;

FURTHER THAT the following be added as second paragraph in A:

FURTHER THAT Council direct the Mayor to write to Premier elect David Eby, the Board of Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), the Provincial Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions on behalf of Council to request that the Province fund the hiring of 100 mental health nurses on an urgent basis to support various mental health initiatives and partnerships between VCH and the VPB.”

AND FURTHER THAT, B be amended as follows:

- The words “subject to the guaranteed funding and provision of sufficient mental health nurses by Vancouver Coastal Health and” be inserted in between “2023” and “Council’s”.

LOST (Vote No. 08878)

(Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung, Klassen, Meiszner, Montague and Zhou opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the following be added, as F:

THAT, related to the City’s expansion into funding health services, Council direct staff to work with VCH, VPD, CMHA-BC and other service provision partners to develop a detailed set of evaluation criteria and an ongoing evaluation plan for these mental health crisis response efforts. And that implementation and evaluation updates be provided to Council every 6 months.

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the words “every 6 months” be struck and replaced with “annually”.

CARRIED (Vote No. 08879)

(Councillor Carr opposed)

(Councillor Fry abstained from the vote)

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the word “develop” be struck and replaced with “request” and the word “coordinated” be inserted between “ongoing” and “evaluation”.

CARRIED (Vote No. 08880)  
(Councillors Boyle and Carr opposed)  
(Councillor Fry abstained from the vote)

The amendments to the amendment having carried, the amendment as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08881).

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the following be added, as G:

THAT this increase in funding be accompanied by a request from Council to the Vancouver Police Board for line-item budgets for the last five years and all years moving forward. And that Council direct the Mayor to communicate this request in the Mayor’s letter to the Vancouver Police Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08882)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT the following be added to the end of D:

AND FURTHER THAT related to the City’s expansion into mental health services, Council formally express to the Province and partners an interest and intention to explicitly explore a mental health care crisis continuum that could divert people in crisis from unnecessary police and psychiatric intervention that seeks to:

- i. First, route crisis calls and wellness checks through crisis lines in order to de-escalate and resolve the crisis;
- ii. Second, dispatch a non-police crisis mobile response team; and
- iii. Third, provide crisis respite facilities – non-hospital settings where a person in crisis can go and get rest, and help from peer support workers and mental health professionals.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08883)

\* \* \* \* \*

*On November 22, 2022, during debate on the motion, it was*

*Moved by Councillor Kirby-Yung,*

*THAT the Committee extend past 5 pm in order to complete the remaining item on the agenda.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

\* \* \* \* \*

Prior to the vote, the Committee agreed to separate the components of the amended motion with A, B and C having CARRIED (Vote No. 08884) with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed; and D through G having CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08885).

**FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

WHEREAS

1. Mental illness and addictions are experienced by residents from all corners of the city;
2. The Vancouver Police Department (VPD) has a number of successful Mental Health Initiatives to serve people living with mental illness. For more than 40 years the VPD has partnered with Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to help improve the quality of life for mutual clients living with mental illness, substance use, and addiction;
3. The VPD collaboration with VCH and other community partner aims to reduce harm to both clients and the community, and to reduce a client's involvement with the criminal justice system, law enforcement, and emergency health services, by providing a coordinated response;
4. The VPD's mental health initiatives and partnerships include (but are not limited to):
  - **Car 87/88 – Mental Health Cars** – VPD officers partner with mental health professionals to provide assessments and intervention for people living with mental illness. Specially-trained officers in plainclothes team up with psychiatric nurses seven days a week and respond to requests from patrol officers and Assertive Outreach Team members for mental health assistance. They determine the most appropriate action in each case, which can include immediate referrals for community-based mental health services or emergency intervention.
  - **Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams** – A small group of clients have repeated and frequent use of the emergency medical system and extensive contact with police. They also encounter barriers to housing and employment. It makes living in the community challenging. ACT teams provide full-service mental health programs and “wrap-around” care for clients with a history of complex mental health issues. The teams help clients transition to traditional community-based care. Teams are 10 to 12 people, and include police officers, nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, and vocational counsellors.
  - **Assertive Outreach Team (AOT)** – While ACT addresses the most high-risk, high-needs clients through long-term, wrap-around services, the

Assertive Outreach Team (AOT) provides short-term bridging services to clients to help them transition from hospital or jail to longer-term community-based services, such as ACT. VPD officers collaborate with Vancouver Coastal Health psychiatrists, nurses, and clinical supervisors to reduce incidents of violence and self-harm, prevent further deterioration in quality of life, and reduce involvement with the criminal justice system.

- **VPD Mental Health Unit** – The VPD Mental Health Unit works to reduce the number of people cycling through the criminal justice system as a result of untreated mental health disorders. The Unit works with Vancouver Coastal Health Mental Health clinical staff. Together, they ensure a coordinated response.
5. On December 8, 2020, Council approved a net VPD budget of \$316,079,342 plus \$300,000 in separate funding for CPCs, resulting in a VPD budget shortfall of \$5,689,974 for 2021. The VPD quantified this funding shortfall as being equivalent to 61 police recruits, or 4.5% of the VPD's authorized sworn strength;
  6. On March 8, 2021, the Police Board appealed to the Province's Director of Police Services for a review of Council's decision under section 27(3) of the Police Act;
  7. In March 2022, B.C.'s Director of Police Services, Wayne Rideout, ruled that the Vancouver Police Department should not have been denied the additional \$5.7 million it requested in December 2020 to fully fund its 2021 operating budget;
  8. The nature, scope, and magnitude of the mental health and addiction crisis facing Vancouver requires a significant and substantial increase in supports and actions to improve the quality of life for those living with mental illness, substance use, and addiction in our city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council empower the Mayor to write to the Vancouver Police Board (VPB) and the Board of Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) on behalf of Council to formally advise of Council's intention to make funding available to the Vancouver Police Board and VCH to enable the requisitioning and hiring of 100 new police officers and 100 mental health nurses to support various mental health initiatives and partnerships between the two agencies;

FURTHER THAT copies of the Mayor's letter be sent to the senior management of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) and VCH, the Vancouver Police Union, local Indigenous Governments, and other relevant partners and stakeholders.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to allocate a full block of funding in the City's 2023 operating budget in the amount of \$8 million, inclusive of any provincial or federal government funding that may be available, to enable the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) to requisition and hire new police officers. Such funding will be made available to the VPD on or after January 1, 2023 subject to Council's



acceptance of plan from the VPD for hiring and deploying the additional police officers to enhance and expand mental health initiatives and partnerships between VPD and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), such as the Car 87/88 program, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams and Assertive Outreach Team (AOT). The interim funding source for the \$8 million allocation will be the general revenue stabilization reserve, with the final funding source to be identified by Council in the 2023 operating budget.

- C. THAT Council direct staff to allocate a full block of funding in the City's 2023 operating budget in the amount of up to \$8 million, inclusive of any provincial or federal government funding that may be available, to enable Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to requisition and hire new nurses. The funding will be made available to VCH on or after January 1, 2023 subject to agreement between the City and VCH on a plan for use of the funds to hire additional nurses to enhance and expand mental health initiatives and partnerships between VCH and the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), such as the Car 87/88 program, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams and Assertive Outreach Team (AOT). The interim funding source for the \$8 million allocation will be the general revenue stabilization reserve, with the final funding source to be identified by Council in the 2023 operating budget.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to work with their counterparts at Vancouver Coastal Health and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) to explore options and opportunities to implement CMHA's Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACT) in Vancouver, as part of the Province's Safer Communities Action Plan or otherwise, to serve as a complementary mental health service to existing VCH and VPD mental health partnerships, in consultation with stakeholders and other relevant partners,

FURTHER THAT Council direct the City Manager to write to the Province to formally request that Vancouver be considered as a location for one of the 12 new Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs) being created under the Safer Communities Action Plan, and further that staff report back to Council in Q1 of 2023 with a memo and/or presentation to update Council on potential next steps Council may wish to entertain as follow up actions or direction to staff.

AND FURTHER THAT related to the City's expansion into mental health services, Council formally express to the Province and partners an interest and intention to explicitly explore a mental health care crisis continuum that could divert people in crisis from unnecessary police and psychiatric intervention that seeks to:

- i. First, route crisis calls and wellness checks through crisis lines in order to de-escalate and resolve the crisis;
- ii. Second, dispatch a non-police crisis mobile response team; and
- iii. Third, provide crisis respite facilities – non-hospital settings where a person in crisis can go and get rest, and help from peer support workers and mental health professionals.

- E. THAT Council empower the Mayor to write to Premier David Eby on behalf of Council to thank the Province for the immediate steps being taken under the newly-announced Safer Communities Action Plan, which seeks to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone, including concrete steps at the provincial level to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers, and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach, and

FURTHER THAT the Mayor's letter to the Premier shall include a statement of Council's support for the 10 additional Indigenous justice centres announced by the Premier as part of the Safer Communities Action Plan, the first five of which are set to open next year to better support Indigenous Peoples in urban and metropolitan areas and further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples.

- F. THAT, related to the City's expansion into funding health services, Council direct staff to work with VCH, VPD, CMHA-BC and other service provision partners to request a detailed set of evaluation criteria and an ongoing coordinated evaluation plan for these mental health crisis response efforts. And that implementation and evaluation updates be provided to Council annually.
- G. THAT this increase in funding be accompanied by a request from Council to the Vancouver Police Board for line-item budgets for the last five years and all years moving forward. And that Council direct the Mayor to communicate this request in the Mayor's letter to the Vancouver Police Board.

## 12. Transport Pricing – “Stopping the Road Tax” (Member' Motion B.6)

At the Council meeting on November 15, 2022, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 16, 2022, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

On November 16, 2022, the Committee heard from one speaker in opposition of the motion, and two speakers dealing with other aspects of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Klassen

### WHEREAS

1. In October 2012, Vancouver City Council approved the Transportation 2040 plan. The plan serves as the City's long-term strategic vision to help guide transportation and land use decisions, and public investments for the years ahead;
2. The plan sets long-term targets and includes both high-level policies and specific actions to achieve this vision;

3. In November 2020, City council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan, which included actions to significantly cut carbon emissions from the biggest local sources such as burning gas and diesel in vehicles and using natural gas in buildings;
4. As part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, transportation actions were developed to create more options for transit, cycling and walking, and to create more walkable communities. To further encourage the shift to active transportation and transit, Council directed staff to assess the feasibility of transport pricing, otherwise known by terms such as road pricing, congestion pricing, and a road tax;
5. Transport pricing (i.e., a road tax) would be a fee for vehicles to drive into, and through Vancouver's city centre;
6. Encouraging active transportation and greater transit use, while reducing the number of private vehicle trips in the city, are desirable objectives. However, the public have clearly indicated that they do not support a road tax in order to achieve the city's transportation and climate objectives.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to ensure that all work and processes specific to the planning and implementation of Transport Pricing, by and within the City of Vancouver, planned or otherwise or by any other technical definition or name, including any planning for the implementation of Transport Pricing for Downtown Vancouver and the Central Broadway Corridor as per the CEAP, is suspended;

FURTHER THAT any and all City staff who may be engaged in work related to the implementation of Transport Pricing by and within the City of Vancouver, exclusive of staff participation in regional transportation discussions and conversations, shall be – and shall be confirmed to be – reassigned to work on other transportation priorities in the city.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT the word “exclusively” be added between “and” and “within” in the first clause;

FURTHER THAT the phrase “except as is related to current and ongoing regional and provincial work on transport pricing within Metro Vancouver;” be added to the end of the first clause.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08886)

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08887) with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry abstaining from the vote.

## FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

### WHEREAS

1. In October 2012, Vancouver City Council approved the Transportation 2040 plan. The plan serves as the City's long-term strategic vision to help guide transportation and land use decisions, and public investments for the years ahead;
2. The plan sets long-term targets and includes both high-level policies and specific actions to achieve this vision;
3. In November 2020, City council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan, which included actions to significantly cut carbon emissions from the biggest local sources such as burning gas and diesel in vehicles and using natural gas in buildings;
4. As part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, transportation actions were developed to create more options for transit, cycling and walking, and to create more walkable communities. To further encourage the shift to active transportation and transit, Council directed staff to assess the feasibility of transport pricing, otherwise known by terms such as road pricing, congestion pricing, and a road tax;
5. Transport pricing (i.e., a road tax) would be a fee for vehicles to drive into, and through Vancouver's city centre;
6. Encouraging active transportation and greater transit use, while reducing the number of private vehicle trips in the city, are desirable objectives. However, the public have clearly indicated that they do not support a road tax in order to achieve the city's transportation and climate objectives.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to ensure that all work and processes specific to the planning and implementation of Transport Pricing, by and exclusively within the City of Vancouver, planned or otherwise or by any other technical definition or name, including any planning for the implementation of Transport Pricing for Downtown Vancouver and the Central Broadway Corridor as per the CEAP, is suspended except as is related to current and ongoing regional and provincial work on transport pricing within Metro Vancouver;

FURTHER THAT any and all City staff who may be engaged in work related to the implementation of Transport Pricing by and within the City of Vancouver, exclusive of staff participation in regional transportation discussions and conversations, shall be – and shall be confirmed to be – reassigned to work on other transportation priorities in the city.

The Committee adjourned on November 22, 2022, at 5:38 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*



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

**NOVEMBER 16 AND 22, 2022**

A meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 10:02 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. Subsequently, this meeting reconvened on Tuesday November 22, 2022, at 5:39 pm. This Council meeting was convened by electronic means as authorized under the Part 14 of the *Procedure By-law*.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ken Sim (Leave of absence for Civic Business on November 22, 2022)  
Councillor Christine Boyle\*  
Councillor Adriane Carr  
Councillor Lisa Dominato  
Councillor Pete Fry  
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Councillor Mike Klassen  
Councillor Peter Meiszner  
Councillor Brian Montague  
Councillor Lenny Zhou

**ABSENT** Councillor Rebecca Bligh (Leave of absence for Personal Reasons on November 16, 2022 and Medical Leave on November 22, 2022)

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager (November 16, 2022)  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager (November 22, 2022)

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk  
Kirsty Colquhoun, Meeting Coordinator

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities  
Wednesday, November 16, 2022

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. 2022 Cultural Grants (Equity, Indigenous, Artists, Spaces, Culture Shift)
2. 2022 Supportive Housing Integration Grants

3. Vancouver Civic Theatres Rental Rates 2023-2024
4. Vancouver Civic Theatres Activating Spaces Grant 2023
5. Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant – Fall 2022 Intake
6. Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Demolition Permit for 172 East Cordova and 307 Main Street
7. Contract Award for South Kinross Park Construction
8. Contract Award for Security Services
9. Adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism (Member’s Motion B.2)
10. Urgent Measures to Uplift Vancouver’s Chinatown (Member’s Motion B.3)

Items 1 to 10

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of November 16, 2022, as contained in Items 1 to 10, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

\* \* \* \* \*

*On November 16, 2022, Council recessed at 10:04 pm and reconvened on November 22, 2022 at 5:39 pm*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities  
Tuesday, November 22, 2022

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities. Its items of business included:

11. Enabling the Requisitioning and Hiring of 100 New Police Officers and 100 Mental Health Nurses (Member Motion B.5)
12. Transport Pricing – “Stopping the Road Tax” (Member Motion B.6)

Items 11 and 12

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of November 22, 2022, as contained in Items 11 and 12, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillor Klassen  
SECONDED by Councillor Montague

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council adjourned on November 22, 2022 at 5:40 pm.

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