



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 9, 2023

A Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 9:30 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall. This Council meeting was convened by electronic means as authorized in Part 14 of the *Procedure By-law*.

PRESENT: Mayor Ken Sim* (Leave of Absence – Civic Business – 5 pm onwards)
Councillor Rebecca Bligh*
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

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager

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

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

The Mayor 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 Mayor 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.

IN CAMERA MEETING

MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT Council will go into meetings later this week which are closed to the public,

pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraphs:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the city or another position appointed by the city;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (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;
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the city;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Council – April 25 and 26, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT the Minutes of the Council meeting of April 25 and 26, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

2. Public Hearing – April 25, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Zhou
SECONDED by Councillor Meiszner

THAT the Minutes of the Public Hearing of April 25, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

3. Council (Policy and Strategic Priorities) – April 26, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Zhou
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the Minutes of the Council meeting following the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting of April 26, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

4. Public Hearing – April 27, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Meiszner
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the Minutes of the Public Hearing of April 27, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

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At the beginning of the consent agenda discussion, Councillor Montague declared a conflict of interest on Report 5, entitled “Annual Report of the Office of the Integrity Commissioner and Review of the Code of Conduct By-law”, noting he has a current complaint against him and an ongoing investigation by the Integrity Commissioner.

At this point in the proceedings, Mayor Sim also declared a conflict of interest on Referral Report 1, entitled “Broadway Plan Implementation – Amendments to Zoning and Development By-law and Guidelines”, noting that although he has no pecuniary interest in the Broadway Plan, there may be a perceived conflict.

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MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT Council adopt Reports 2 and 3, and Referral Reports 1 to 5, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)
(Mayor Sim ineligible for the vote due to conflict of interest)

REPORTS

1. **Prioritization Framework for Planning Policy and Processing Applications April 25, 2023**

Staff from Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability provided a presentation and responded to questions.

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At the beginning of questions to staff, it was

*MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Carr*

THAT under Section 5.4(d) of the Procedure By-law, Council ask a second round of questions to staff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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The Committee heard from three speakers; two who spoke in opposition to the recommendations and one who spoke to other aspects of the report.

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The Committee recessed at 11:42 pm and reconvened at 3:18 pm.

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POSTPONEMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Meiszner

THAT Council postpone debate and decision on the Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Prioritization Framework for Planning Policy and Processing Applications" to the Council meeting on May 30, 2023, as Unfinished Business.

CARRIED (Vote No. 09234)
(Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed)

2. **2023 Graffiti Abatement Grants to Business Improvement Associations (BIAs) April 22, 2023**

A. THAT, pursuant to section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council approve up to \$500,000 for the 2023 BIA Graffiti Abatement Grants described in the Report dated April 22, 2023, entitled "2023 Graffiti Abatement Grants to Business

Improvement Associations (BIAs)", to be disbursed to the 22 Business Improvement Associations (BIAs) as set out in Appendix A of the same report.

- B. THAT Council deem the 22 Business Improvement Associations to be contributing to the beautification of the City.
- C. THAT the grants be subject to the Business Improvement Associations executing and delivering a grant letter agreement received from the City of Vancouver and satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services.
- D. THAT the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute the appropriate grant agreements with each of the respective Business Improvement Associations.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND A AND B
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 09227)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

**3. Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan – Strategic Priority Grants
May 9, 2023**

- A. THAT Council approve four (4) Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan strategic priority grants totaling \$387,000 to the organizations and for the amounts from funding sources listed in Appendix A of the Report dated May 9, 2023, entitled "Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan – Strategic Priority Grants", in support of the Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan approved by Council in January 2023.
- B. THAT, pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council deems any organization listed in Appendix A of the Report dated May 9, 2023, entitled "Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan – Strategic Priority Grants", that is not otherwise a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency to be contributing to the culture, beautification, health, or welfare of the city.
- C. THAT the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute the appropriate grant agreements with each of the respective organizations listed in Appendix A of the Report dated May 9, 2023, entitled "Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan – Strategic Priority Grants".
- D. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council's adoption of A through C above unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND A AND B
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 09228)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

**4. Amendments to the Procedure By-law No. 12577
March 22, 2023**

The Acting City Clerk responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Montague
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

- A. THAT Council approve, in principle, the proposed amendments summarized in Table 1 of this report to the Procedure By-law.
- B. THAT Council approve, in principle, the proposed amendments summarized in Table 2 of this report to the Procedure By-law with the following amendments to Items 1, 4, and 5, in Table 2 as follows:
- Item 1 – Amend the start time for Public Hearings on Thursdays to an earlier start time of 1 pm to allow more time to conduct business rather than 3 pm as noted in the report.
 - Item 4 – Amend that the individual speaker time at a Standing Committee, Council, or Special Council meeting be amended to not more than 3 minutes (from the current 5 minutes) as per staff recommendations.
 - Item 5 – Amend the time for Council to ask questions of speakers by eliminating questions to speakers, which will provide a better estimate of timing of agenda items.

FURTHER THAT Item 6 be excluded from Table 2;

AND FURTHER THAT the Procedure By-law No. 12577 be amended to strike section 9.8, Council member questions to mover of member's motion.

- C. THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare a by-law for enactment on May 10, 2023, that reflects Council's direction and is generally in accordance with the by-law attached as Appendix A.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the following be added as D:

THAT Council direct staff to prepare a by-law for enactment to amend the relevant sections of the Procedure By-law to table and hear from speakers on Council member motions during Standing Committee meetings on Wednesdays, as a change to address confusion that arises from the current practice of tabling

member motions during Council on a Tuesday and then referring to hear from speakers at Standing Committee the following day.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 09235)

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At this point in the proceedings Mayor Sim left the meeting and Councillor Meiszner assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

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The amendment having carried, Council agreed that for recommendation B, Council would vote separately on the components of the motion and also on Items 2, 3 and 7 from table 2 of the report. The amended motion was put and the vote results are as follows:

A was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 09236), with Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, amended Item 1 from Table 2 of the Report, was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 09237), with Councillor Carr opposed and Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, amended Item 4 from Table 2 of the Report, was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 09238), with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed and Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, amended Item 5 from Table 2 of the Report, was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 09239), with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed and Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, FURTHER THAT (to strike Item 6 from Table 2 of the Report) was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 09240), with Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, AND FURTHER THAT (strike section 9.8 from the Procedure By-law) was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 09241), with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed and Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, Item 2 from Table 2 of the Report, was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 09242), with Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, Item 3 from Table 2 of the Report, was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 09243), with Councillors Boyle, Carr and Fry opposed and Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

B, Item 7 from Table 2 of the Report, was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 09244), with Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

C and D were put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 09245), with Mayor Sim absent for the vote.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

- A. THAT Council approve, in principle, the proposed amendments summarized in Table 1 of the Report dated March 22, 2023, entitled “Amendments to the Procedure By-law No. 12577”, to the Procedure By-law.
- B. THAT Council approve, in principle, the proposed amendments summarized in Table 2 of the Report dated March 22, 2023, entitled “Amendments to the Procedure By-law No. 12577”, to the Procedure By-law with the following amendments to Items 1, 4, and 5, in Table 2 as follows:
- Item 1 – Amend the start time for Public Hearings on Thursdays to an earlier start time of 1 pm to allow more time to conduct business rather than 3 pm as noted in the report;
 - Item 4 – Amend that the individual speaker time at a Standing Committee, Council, or Special Council meeting be amended to not more than 3 minutes (from the current 5 minutes) as per staff recommendations;
 - Item 5 – Amend the time for Council to ask questions of speakers by eliminating questions to speakers, which will provide a better estimate of timing of agenda items;

FURTHER THAT Item 6 be excluded from Table 2 of the above-noted report;

AND FURTHER THAT the Procedure By-law No. 12577 be amended to strike section 9.8, Council member questions to mover of member’s motion.

- C. THAT Council instruct the Director of Legal Services to prepare a by-law for enactment on May 10, 2023, that reflects Council's direction in A and B above and D below, and is generally in accordance with the by-law attached as Appendix A of the Report dated March 22, 2023, entitled “Amendments to the Procedure By-law No. 12577”.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to prepare a by-law for enactment to amend the relevant sections of the Procedure By-law to table and hear from speakers on Council member motions during Standing Committee meetings on Wednesdays, as a change to address confusion that arises from the current practice of tabling member motions during Council on a Tuesday and then referring to hear from speakers at Standing Committee the following day.

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At this point in the proceedings, it was

*MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou*

THAT Council vary the order of the agenda to deal with Council Members’ Motions next;

FURTHER THAT the meeting be extended to 5:15 pm.

amended

*AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen*

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

THAT the meeting be extended to 5:30 pm to continue with the agenda items;

FURTHER THAT Report 5, entitled “Annual Report of the Office of the Integrity Commissioner and Review of the Code of Conduct By-law”, be referred to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Mayor Sim absent for the vote)*

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**5. Annual Report of the Office of the Integrity Commissioner and Review of the Code of Conduct By-law
March 29, 2023**

Due to time constraints, this item was referred to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

REFERRAL REPORTS

**1. Broadway Plan Implementation – Amendments to Zoning and Development By-law and Guidelines
April 13, 2023**

THAT the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be instructed to bring forward the applications as described below and that the applications be referred to Public Hearing together with the recommendations set out below;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary Zoning and Development By-law amendments, in accordance with the recommendations set out below, for consideration at the Public Hearing.

Recommendation for Public Hearing

- A. THAT Council approve, in principle, an application to amend the Zoning and Development By-law to facilitate Broadway Plan implementation generally as

presented in Appendix A of the Referral Report dated April 13, 2023, entitled “Broadway Plan Implementation – Amendments to Zoning and Development By-law and Guidelines”;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment an amendment to the Zoning and Development By-law generally as presented in Appendix A of the above-noted report.

- B. THAT at the time of enactment of the amended Zoning and Development By-law, the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be instructed to bring forward for approval by Council the Industrial Spaces Guidelines, generally as presented in Appendix C of the Referral Report dated April 13, 2023, entitled “Broadway Plan Implementation – Amendments to Zoning and Development By-law and Guidelines”.
- C. THAT at the time of enactment of the amended Zoning and Development By-law, the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be instructed to bring forward for approval by Council the updated Mount Pleasant Employment-Intensive Light Industrial Rezoning Policy and Guidelines (I-1C), generally as presented in Appendix D of the Referral Report dated April 13, 2023, entitled “Broadway Plan Implementation – Amendments to Zoning and Development By-law and Guidelines”.
- D. THAT at the time of enactment of the amended Zoning and Development By-law, the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be instructed to bring forward for approval by Council the updated C-2, C-2B, C-2C, and C-2C1 Guidelines for Residential Rental Tenure Buildings, generally as presented in Appendix E of the Referral Report dated April 13, 2023, entitled “Broadway Plan Implementation – Amendments to Zoning and Development By-law and Guidelines”.
- E. THAT A through D above be adopted on the following conditions:
 - a. THAT passage of the above resolutions creates no legal rights for any person, or obligation on the part of the City and any expenditure of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the cost;
 - b. THAT any approval that may be granted following the public hearing shall not obligate the City to enact any rezoning by-laws; and
 - c. THAT the City and all its officials, including the Approving Officer, shall not in any way be limited or directed in the exercise of their authority or

discretion, regardless of when they are called upon to exercise such authority or discretion.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 09229)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)
(Mayor Sim ineligible for the vote due to conflict of interest)

**2. Rezoning: 109 East 40th Avenue
April 25, 2023**

THAT the rezoning application, described below, be referred to Public Hearing together with the recommendations set out below and with the recommendation of the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability to approve the application, subject to the conditions set out below;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-laws, in accordance with the recommendations set out below, for consideration at the Public Hearing.

Recommendation for Public Hearing

- A. THAT the application by GMC Projects Inc, on behalf of 40th Avenue Apartment Holdings Inc., the registered owner of the land located at 109 East 40th Avenue [*PID 031-806-902; Lot A, Block F, District Lots 639 and 640, Group 1 New Westminster District Plan EPP100728*], to rezone the land from RS-1 (Residential) District to RR-3A (Residential Rental) District, be approved in principle;

FURTHER THAT the draft zoning amendment by-law, prepared for the Public Hearing in accordance with Appendix A of the Referral report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 109 East 40th Avenue", be approved in principle;

AND FURTHER THAT the above approvals be subject to the Conditions of Approval contained in Appendix B of the above-noted report.

- B. THAT subject to approval in principle of the rezoning and the Housing Agreement described in Part 2 of Appendix B of the Referral report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 109 East 40th Avenue", the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary Housing Agreement By-law for enactment prior to enactment of the zoning amendment By-law, subject to such terms and conditions as may be required at the discretion of the Director of Legal Services and the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability.
- C. THAT subject to approval of the zoning amendment by-law, the Subdivision By-law be amended generally as set out in Appendix C of the Referral report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 109 East 40th Avenue";

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the amendment to the Subdivision By-law at the time of enactment of the zoning amendment by-law.

- D. THAT A to C above be adopted on the following conditions:
- (i) THAT the passage of the above resolutions creates no legal rights for the applicant or any other person, or obligation on the part of the City; any expenditure of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the cost;
 - (ii) THAT any approval that may be granted following the public hearing shall not obligate the City to enact a by-law rezoning the property, and any costs incurred in fulfilling requirements imposed as a condition of rezoning are at the risk of the property owner; and
 - (iii) THAT the City and all its officials, including the Approving Officer, shall not in any way be limited or directed in the exercise of their authority or discretion, regardless of when they are called upon to exercise such authority or discretion.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 09230)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

**3. Rezoning: 2325-2377 West 49th Avenue
April 25, 2023**

THAT the rezoning application, described below, be referred to Public Hearing together with the recommendations set out below and with the recommendation of the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability to approve the application, subject to the conditions set out below;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law, in accordance with the recommendations set out below, for consideration at the Public Hearing.

Recommendation for Public Hearing

- A. THAT the application, by Intracorp Homes on behalf of Westward Development Nominee Inc., the registered owner of the lands located at:
- 2325-2327 West 49th Avenue [*the East and West ½ of Lot 5 of Lot 4 Block 1 District Lot 526 Plan 5190; PIDs 011-222-611 and 011-222-565 respectively*], and
 - 2349-2377 West 49th Avenue [*Lots I and H of Lot 4 Block 1 District Lot 526 Plan 19740; PIDs 003-025-861 and 015-083-063 respectively*],

to rezone the lands from RS-5 (Residential) District to RR-2B (Residential Rental) District, be approved in principle;

FURTHER THAT the draft zoning amendment by-law, prepared for the Public Hearing in accordance with Appendix A of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 2325-2377 West 49th Avenue", be approved in principle;

AND FURTHER THAT the above approvals be subject to the Conditions of Approval contained in Appendix B of the above-noted report.

B. THAT subject to approval in principle of the rezoning and the Housing Agreement described in Part 2 of Appendix B of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 2325-2377 West 49th Avenue", the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary Housing Agreement By-law for enactment prior to enactment of the zoning amendment by-law, subject to such terms and conditions as may be required at the discretion of the Director of Legal Services and the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability.

C. THAT subject to approval of the zoning amendment by-law, the Subdivision Bylaw be amended generally as set out in Appendix C of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 2325-2377 West 49th Avenue";

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the amendment to the Subdivision By-law at the time of enactment of the zoning amendment by-law.

D. THAT A to C above be adopted on the following conditions:

- (i) THAT the passage of the above resolutions creates no legal rights for the applicant or any other person, or obligation on the part of the City; any expenditure of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the cost;
- (ii) THAT any approval that may be granted following the public hearing shall not obligate the City to enact a by-law rezoning the property, and any costs incurred in fulfilling requirements imposed as a condition of rezoning are at the risk of the property owner; and
- (iii) THAT the City and all its officials, including the Approving Officer, shall not in any way be limited or directed in the exercise of their authority or discretion, regardless of when they are called upon to exercise such authority or discretion.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 09231)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

**4. CD-1 Rezoning: 427-449 West 39th Avenue
April 25, 2023**

THAT the rezoning application, described below, be referred to Public Hearing together with the recommendations set out below and with the recommendation of the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability to approve the application, subject to the conditions set out below;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law(s), in accordance with the recommendations set out below, for consideration at the Public Hearing.

Recommendation for Public Hearing

- A. THAT the application by Gracorp Properties Ltd. on behalf of W39 Investment Holdings Ltd., the registered owner of the lands located at 427-449 West 39th Avenue [*Lots 8-10, Block 854 District Lot 526 Plan 7240; PIDs 010-681-841, 010-681-876, and 010-681-884 respectively*], to rezone the lands from RS-1 (Residential) District to CD-1 (Comprehensive Development) District to increase the floor space ratio (FSR) from 0.70 to 6.10 and the building height from 10.7 m (35.1 ft.) to 55 m (180 ft.), to permit the development of an 18-storey building containing 176 secured-rental units, with 20% of the residential floor area secured as below-market rental units, be approved in principle;

FURTHER THAT the proposed form of development also be approved in principle, generally as prepared by Musson Cattell Mackey Partnership, received March 11, 2022 with revisions received May 13, 2022, provided the Director of Planning may allow minor alterations to this form of development when approving the detailed scheme of development;

AND FURTHER THAT the above approvals be subject to the Conditions of Approval contained in Appendix B of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "CD-1 Rezoning: 427-449 West 39th Avenue".

- B. THAT subject to approval in principle of the rezoning and the Housing Agreement described in Part 2 of Appendix B of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "CD-1 Rezoning: 427-449 West 39th Avenue", the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary Housing Agreement By-law for enactment prior to enactment of the zoning amendment By-law, subject to such terms and conditions as may be required at the discretion of the Director of Legal Services and the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability.
- C. THAT subject to approval of the CD-1 By-law, the Subdivision By-law be amended, generally as set out in Appendix C of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "CD-1 Rezoning: 427-449 West 39th Avenue" subject to approval of the CD-1 By-law;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the amendment to the Subdivision By-law at the time of enactment of the CD-1 By-law.

- D. THAT A to C above be adopted on the following conditions:
- (i) THAT the passage of the above resolutions creates no legal rights for the applicant or any other person, or obligation on the part of the City; any expenditure of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the cost;
 - (ii) THAT any approval that may be granted following the Public Hearing shall not obligate the City to enact a by-law rezoning the property, and any costs incurred in fulfilling requirements imposed as a condition of rezoning are at the risk of the property owner; and
 - (iii) THAT the City and all its officials, including the Approving Officer, shall not in any way be limited or directed in the exercise of their authority or discretion, regardless of when they are called upon to exercise such authority or discretion.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 09232)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

**5. Rezoning: 3803 - 3823 West 10th Avenue
April 25, 2023**

THAT the rezoning application, described below, be referred to Public Hearing together with the recommendations set out below and with the recommendation of the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability to approve the application, subject to the conditions set out below;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law(s), in accordance with the recommendations set out below, for consideration at the Public Hearing.

Recommendation for Public Hearing

- A. THAT the application by Sightline Properties (Highbury Street) Ltd., the registered owners of the lands located at 3803 – 3823 West 10th Avenue [*Lot 22, 21, and 20, Block 183 District Lot 176 Plan 6188; PIDs 010-948-945, 010-948-929 and 010-195-572 respectively*], to rezone the lands from RS-1 (Residential) to RR-3B (Residential Rental) District, be approved in principle;

FURTHER THAT the draft zoning amendment by-law, prepared for the Public Hearing in accordance with Appendix A of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled “Rezoning: 3803 - 3823 West 10th Avenue”, be approved in principle;

AND FURTHER THAT the above approvals be subject to the Conditions of Approval contained in Appendix B of the above-noted report.

- B. THAT subject to approval in principle of the rezoning and the Housing Agreement described in Part 2 of Appendix B of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 3803 - 3823 West 10th Avenue", the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary Housing Agreement By-law for enactment prior to enactment of the zoning amendment By-law, subject to such terms and conditions as may be required at the discretion of the Director of Legal Services and the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability.
- C. THAT subject to approval of the zoning amendment by-law, the Subdivision By-law be amended generally as set out in Appendix C of the Referral Report dated April 25, 2023, entitled "Rezoning: 3803 - 3823 West 10th Avenue";

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the amendment to the Subdivision By-law at the time of enactment of the zoning amendment by-law.

- D. THAT A to C above be adopted on the following conditions:
 - (i) THAT the passage of the above resolutions creates no legal rights for the applicant or any other person, or obligation on the part of the City; any expenditure of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the cost;
 - (ii) THAT any approval that may be granted following the public hearing shall not obligate the City to enact a by-law rezoning the property, and any costs incurred in fulfilling requirements imposed as a condition of rezoning are at the risk of the property owner; and
 - (iii) THAT the City and all its officials, including the Approving Officer, shall not in any way be limited or directed in the exercise of their authority or discretion, regardless of when they are called upon to exercise such authority or discretion.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 09233)
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

BY-LAWS

Councillor Montague advised he had reviewed the proceedings related to by-law 2 and would therefore be voting on the enactment.

MOVED by Councillor Carr
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT Council enact the by-laws listed on the agenda for this meeting as numbers 1 to 3

inclusive, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign and seal the enacted by-laws.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

1. A By-law to amend the Ticket Offences By-law No. 9360 regarding the Graffiti By-law (By-law No. 13679)
2. A By-law to amend Sign By-law No.11879 (4408-4488 Fraser Street and 707-709 East 29th Avenue) (By-law No. 13680)
3. A By-law to amend Noise Control By-law No. 6555 (4408-4488 Fraser Street and 707-709 East 29th Avenue) (By-law No. 13681)

MOTIONS

A. Administrative Motions

None.

B. Council Members' Motions

1. Requests for Leaves of Absence

MOVED by Councillor Carr
SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT Councillor Carr be granted a Leave of Absence for civic business from meetings on May 18, 2023, from 3 pm to 4 pm;

FURTHER THAT Councillor Bligh be granted a Leave of Absence for personal reasons from meetings on May 17, 2023, from 3 pm to 5 pm;

FURTHER THAT Councillor Dominato be granted a Leave of Absence for civic business from meetings on June 6, 2023, from 5 pm to 10 pm;

AND FURTHER THAT Councillor Kirby-Yung be granted a Leave of Absence for civic business from meetings on May 16 to 18, 2023, and May 23 and 24, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

2. Change to Business Licence Hearing Panels

MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT Councillor Fry replace Councillor Dominato as Chair at the Business Licence Hearing to be held July 18, 2023;

FURTHER THAT Councillor Dominato replace Councillor Fry as Chair at the Business Licence Hearing to be held July 19, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

3. Establishing an Inter-Municipal Business Licence for Home Healthcare Support Workers

MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

WHEREAS

1. In 2014, the provincial government created a single mobile business license for multiple municipalities for construction, trades, catering, and mobile (hair) salons. These were created for multiple regions in BC including the Lower Mainland. See information here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/small-business/mobile-business-licence-program>;
2. Mobile business licences allow some types of businesses to work across participating communities. They are also known as "inter-community business licences" or "inter-municipal business licences.";
3. The City of Vancouver has an ongoing program of work to support older adults and vulnerable populations. For example, many of Vancouver's seniors live on limited incomes, and have been affected both by increased costs for health care, and decreased access to services, such as home support;
4. The City of Vancouver has an Age-friendly Action Plan with a series of over 60 actions the City can take to help make Vancouver a more safe, inclusive, and engaging city for seniors. The City's goal is to improve facilities and services for seniors across the full spectrum, from fully independent older adults and seniors, to those who are more vulnerable and need additional support;
5. As part of the City's ongoing efforts to support Vancouver's families, Council and staff collaborate with the community and all levels of government to provide a range of programs and facilities that keep seniors active, engaged, and connected to the health services they need. Many seniors are also recent immigrants who face significant language barriers. City staff therefore work to

increase access to services for these seniors, and support networking for seniors across all cultures;

6. Home health (support) workers are employed by both public and private companies. Most, but not all, support workers help seniors and people with disabilities (often providing relief for family caregivers) and variously provide shopping, meals, housekeeping, medicine allocation, and personal hygiene;
7. There are dozens of small and medium sized companies across Metro Vancouver who manage teams of home support workers who drive to appointments throughout the day. Many clients pay out of pocket for support services unless they receive support through the health authorities or by WorkSafeBC or ICBC claims; and
8. There is a strong rationale for the Provincial government, through the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation, to expand the inter-municipal business licence categories to include home support workers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to explore the establishment of an inter-municipal business licence (i.e., mobile business license) for home healthcare support workers in coordination with their provincial and municipal counterparts, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, toward the expansion of home health support workers as an eligible mobile business license category.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Carr
SECONDED by Councillor Montague

THAT the motion entitled “Establishing an Inter-Municipal Business Licence for Home Healthcare Support Workers” be referred to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on May 10, 2023, to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

4. A People-Focused Gastown: A Bold, Forward-Looking Vision for a Vibrant and Prosperous Neighbourhood

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

WHEREAS

1. Gastown is the birthplace of our city, located within the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-waututh First Nations. It is a beloved historic destination for locals and visitors alike;

2. Gastown is Vancouver's oldest commercial district, becoming a booming hub following the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1886. Many of the current structures were built in the 1890s and are now preserved as heritage buildings;
3. Historically Gastown has been at the centre of many of the city's defining moments, such as the Great Fire of 1886 when First Nations paddled across the Burrard Inlet to help rescue people from the fire. The fire on June 13, 1886 largely destroyed the city, but it also created an opportunity to rebuild anew;
4. The Gastown area has long been a diverse and vibrant neighbourhood. However, the streets of Gastown have been in need of major repair and rehabilitation for some time and have now deteriorated to a state of critical disrepair;
5. Planning and engagement processes have been ongoing over the course of many years to explore how Gastown might be made an even better place for people. For example, the Imagine Gastown Streets – Phase One Engagement Summary 2017-2018;
6. Likewise, the Gastown Complete Streets Project outlined various goals and a planning process, building in part from the Transportation 2040 plan and Downtown Eastside Plan. The Complete Streets project notably identified four key goals:
 - Celebrate and acknowledge Gastown's complex history and work towards reconciliation
 - Explore Vancouver's first car-light area
 - Address a major gap in the all ages and abilities cycling network
 - Enhance transit service for buses and future streetcar;
7. And most recently, the Gastown Business Improvement Society (GBIS) released an Urban Design Study in March 2020 to provide insight into how public realm changes may affect Gastown business members, workers, residents, and visitors alike and highlight community priorities for focused action. Community feedback from the study included suggestions for more programming such as art exhibitions and farmers markets, jazz festivals and chalk-art festivals, public seating, a First Nations monument, covered meeting spaces and patios, art in a variety of styles from First Nations and local artists reflective of the industrial history of the neighbourhood, as well as a desire to keep with the historic vibe of the neighbourhood; <https://gastown.org/tomorrow/>
8. In the 2023-26 Capital Plan, Council identified Gastown Streets as a priority and approved \$10 million in funding to support enhanced Host Nations visibility, immediate repairs and improvements in Gastown, and the planning and design process to guide the renewal of Water Street and Maple Tree Square as Phase 1; ⁱ

- Specifically, it was moved as an amendment at the 2023-2026 Capital Plan Special Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 (by Councillor Kirby-Yung and seconded by Councillor Dominato): *“THAT Council add \$3 million to the Capital Budget for the Gastown/Water Street project from emerging priorities funding, with overall funding increasing from \$7 million to \$10 million, to advance additional targeted sidewalk repairs and projects to enhance public realm in Gastown including visibility of Host Nations.”*

CARRIED (Vote No. 08621)

9. Additionally, at the Special Council meeting on June 29, 2022, on the 2023-26 Capital Plan, consistent with the identification of Gastown and Water Street as a core infrastructure major renewal project and the motion to more quickly address the significant degradation of the street and public realm in this historic neighbourhood and the bigger overall project funding requirements, it was determined that the Capital Plan Mid-term Update in 2024 provides the opportunity to allocate funding to advance construction as Phase 2 (estimated at \$13M) and that the remainder of the work (estimated at \$15M) could be included in the 2027-30 Capital Plan;
10. In terms of planning for the major repair and rehabilitation the Gastown's streets, Council has received updates from staff advising on work with the Gastown BIA and other stakeholders, including identifying alternatives for immediate repairs and improvements in the neighbourhood;
11. More specifically, staff have advised that they have been developing a work program for Gastown, and have made advances on some components such as priority sidewalk repairs that began in 2022 and continue in 2023. Blood Alley Square construction is also well underway and some restoration work for Trounce Alley is scheduled for 2024; and
12. Staff have nevertheless identified that there is a gap in Council direction for the long-term vision for Gastown Streets and public space, and that given the recognition that the streets are in need of major repair and rehabilitation, and as that planning and engagement processes that have been ongoing over the course of many years to explore how Gastown might be made an even better place for people, it is incumbent on Council to provide staff with direction on the long-term vision for Gastown to help guide planning and investment in the area and to move forward with revitalizing this historic and valued neighbourhood.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to proceed immediately with urgently needed patching repairs and improvements to Water Street to address known deficiencies and safety hazards and that staff not proceed with a larger asphalt treatment plan at this time to be funded from the existing current Capital Plan allocation.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to initiate, as quickly as possible, a streets and public realm planning and design process for Gastown that brings in an external urban place-making lens and expertise to the Gastown planning and engagement process(es) toward a bold vision to pedestrianize Water Street and make it car-free or car-light either on a seasonal or year-round basis, with the overarching goal being a more vibrant, people-friendly destination and the enabling of ongoing activations including patios, music, events, festivals and active transportation opportunities.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to seek to work with the Gastown Business Improvement Society (GBIS) to pilot a car-free shut down of Water Street during a month or on select weekends in the summer of 2023 and/or in summer 2024, as desired by and in partnership with the GBIS and other Gastown stakeholders.
- D. THAT staff planning efforts for Gastown shall include bringing potential strategic directions to Council by the end of Q2 2024 with options to restore and expand the irreplaceable public realm of this historic neighbourhood and enhance it as a vibrant, people-friendly place.
- E. THAT Council acknowledge the longer-term potential of changing the configuration of Cordova Street from a one-way to a two-way street from the Powell Street Overpass to Waterfront Station to support traffic flow in the area, and to complement a more pedestrian-friendly Gastown;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to seek to engage with TransLink on related bus infrastructure needs and requirements and report back to Council with high-level considerations for a shift to a two-way street by the end of Q3 of 2023.

* * * * *

ⁱ 2023-2026 Capital Plan – Special Council Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, June 29, 2022. AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung and SECONDED by Councillor Dominato: “*THAT Council add \$3 million to the Capital Budget for the Gastown/Water Street project from emerging priorities funding, with overall funding increasing from \$7 million to \$10 million, to advance additional targeted sidewalk repairs and projects to enhance public realm in Gastown including visibility of Host Nations.*” CARRIED (Vote No. 08621) (Councillors Boyle, Carr, Swanson, and Mayor Stewart opposed) (Councillor Hardwick absent for the vote) <https://council.vancouver.ca/20220629/documents/spec20220629min.pdf>

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung SECONDED by Councillor Dominato: “*THAT the following be added as F: THAT Council acknowledges the critical nature of the Gastown and Water Street Rehabilitation work, and that the full scope of that work is currently projected at approximately \$35 million, which leaves a funding gap*” and

“FURTHER THAT the following be added as G: *THAT Council direct staff to report back to Council on the opportunity to accelerate the larger-scale Gastown and Water Street Rehabilitation project delivery through the addition or reallocation of funding in the Capital Plan Midterm Update in 2024.*” CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 08622) <https://council.vancouver.ca/20220629/documents/spec20220629min.pdf>

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the motion entitled "A People-Focused Gastown: A Bold, Forward-Looking Vision for a Vibrant and Prosperous Neighbourhood" be referred to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on May 10, 2023, to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

5. Tracking the Broadway Plan Pace of Demoviction

Prior to the motion receiving a seconder, Councillor Montague rose on a point of order, noting the motion was out of order under sections 8.7(d) and (f), as some of the work requested was already underway. The Acting Mayor agreed and ruled the motion out of order under section 8.7(d) which states it conflicts with a resolution previously passed and still in force.

* * * * *

Following the ruling of the Acting Mayor, it was

MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the ruling of the Chair be challenged.

not put

* * * * *

Following debate on the motion to challenge the Chair, Council took a brief recess, and the Acting Mayor then withdrew his ruling of the motion being out of order, and ruled it in order, as it did not conflict with a resolution previously passed and still in force.

MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

WHEREAS

1. The Broadway Plan is a thirty-year strategic plan to manage growth, development, and displacement over an approximately 500 block area surrounding the Broadway Subway. Envisioned as a future second downtown for Vancouver, the area expects construction of significantly more job space and

services, and some 30,000 new homes;

2. The Broadway Plan area includes a large amount of existing older rental housing and some of the City's most affordable housing, with 30,000 exiting renter households making up 59% of the local housing stock. These conditions require a balanced development approach delivering new rental supply, providing options for retention and renewal, and minimizing displacement;
3. Vancouver City Council approved the Broadway Plan in June 2022 and recommended a specific "pace of change" approach for the rental apartment areas, including direction:

"THAT Council direct staff to report back at a future date on a pace of change approach for the Broadway Plan, including further study on an appropriate number of applications and criteria for prioritizing applications based on their merits.";
4. The *Broadway Plan Implementation* report on March 29, 2023 included a Pace of Change policy to manage the rate of redevelopment in existing (typically older, affordable) apartment areas (RM zoning districts) only, while allowing projects in all other areas to proceed in the usual course, enabling significant construction in station areas before displacing exiting tenant areas;
5. Staff recommended a Pace of Change policy for RM-zoned areas that anticipated:
 - a) Restricting redevelopment of tenanted multi-dwelling use buildings to approximately 150 households / year over three years;
 - b) Broadway-plan specific Tenant Relocation Protection Policies and local vacancy rates to accommodate the relocation of 110 households per year;
 - c) Limiting the otherwise redevelopment and displacement of some 2,000 households per year; and
 - d) Enough enquiries and interest to develop as much as 6,300 units of housing outside the RM-zoned Pace of Change areas with no displacement;
6. In essence, the Broadway Plan's proposed Pace of Change is synonymous with *Pace of Demoviction*. A *demoviction* is when a tenant is displaced as a result of their home being demolished for redevelopment. A *renoviction* is when a tenant is displaced as a result of their home being renovated;
7. Staff reported that members of UDI and Landlord BC were strongly opposed to the Pace of Change policy as they felt the tenant protections applicable to the Broadway Plan area are sufficient protection and the market would be able to address issues of redevelopment and relocation without further regulation;

8. The Tenant Relocation and Protection Policy (TRPP) offers robust length-of-tenure based buy out options and rights of first refusal as applies to *demovictions*: rezoning and development permit applications only;
9. Building permits for the purpose of *renoviction*: renovation or repairs that may require a tenant to relocate, do not necessarily or explicitly trigger the TRPP. The resulting *renoviction* under a building permit provides limited compensation but a right to return at new (future) rents;
10. Real estate economics and opportunities have incentivized the redevelopment of even newly renovated and newly tenanted buildings. ¹ This loophole, if exploited either by intent or by happenstance could allow for buildings to be emptied under a building permit for renovation, then re-tenanted, and then subsequently cleared for demolition and redevelopment -- thereby circumventing length-of-tenure and right of return based TRPP;
11. In recent months Council has rejected both the Renters Office that would otherwise track (non TRPP) *renovictions*, and the Broadway Plan Pace of Change designed to limit *demovictions*; and
12. As part of the March 2023 Council approved Broadway Plan Implementation report Council directed staff to provide an ongoing quarterly memo to:

“outline the number of housing projects that have progressed beyond the letter of enquiry stage to the active application stage, including the number and tenure type of housing units for these active applications, in order for Council to monitor progress and trends, and to stay apprised of opportunities and challenges as the Broadway Plan progresses.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council affirm a commitment to protect affordable rental stock in the Broadway Plan area and seek staff support with data and strategies to manage the pace of demoviction.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to include as available annually, and as part of the Council-directed Broadway Plan Implementation quarterly memo:
 - a. Building permits issued for multiple dwelling use renovations;
 - b. Demolition permits issued for multiple dwelling buildings;
 - c. Number of residents identified in City’s mandatory Needs Assessment that are being considered under Tenant Relocation plans; and
 - d. Vacancy rates with average rents.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a Broadway Plan area strategy to identify:
 - a. Building permits issued for renovations that will require vacancy;
 - b. Number of tenants given Notice to End Tenancy for renovation;

- c. Any recommendations or remedies to limit unsustainable displacement of tenants, including but not limited to reconsideration of a new pace of change policy or limits on renovations.

1. <https://council.vancouver.ca/20230309/documents/phea3rr.pdf>

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Boyle
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the motion entitled "Tracking the Broadway Plan Pace of Demoviction" be referred to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on May 10, 2023, to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh, Dominato, Kirby-Yung, Klassen and Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

* * * * *

At this point in the proceedings, it was

*MOVED by Councillor Boyle
SECONDED by Councillor Carr*

THAT the meeting extend past 5:30 pm to complete the agenda.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Councillors Bligh, Dominato, Klassen and Mayor Sim absent for the vote)*

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6. The Bird is the Word: Elevating Vancouver's Strategy

MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

WHEREAS

1. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated twice a year in North America, on the second Saturday of May and October. In 2023, these dates fall on May 13 and October 14, respectively. Additionally, the Greater Vancouver Bird Celebration

takes place from May 13 to May 31; ¹

2. The Greater Vancouver Bird Celebration is organized by the Vancouver Bird Advisory Committee (VBAC). VBAC is a collaborative partnership of non-profits, artists, and other institutions, in partnership with City of Vancouver and Vancouver Park Board to assist on policies and strategies and to celebrate birds throughout the region;
3. Over 250 species of resident, migratory and over-wintering birds are regularly observed in greater Vancouver: from robins off Robson, to herons over Stanley Park, eagles in Strathcona, Stellar Jays in Shaughnessy, and nightly migrations of Northwestern Crows over East Van;
4. Vancouver is important for bird populations given our location on the Fraser River delta, a major stop along the Pacific Flyway, which extends north to Alaska and south to Central and South America. Locally, Fraser River Estuary; English Bay, Burrard Inlet and Howe Sound; Greater Vancouver Watershed; and Pacific Spirit Regional Park are considered *Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas* (a worldwide conservation initiative coordinated by BirdLife International);
5. Birds play a crucial role in the mental wellbeing of Vancouver's population. Studies have shown that the sounds and sights of birds help people connect with nature, providing long-lasting stress relief and mental health benefits. During the pandemic, birdwatching became a popular outdoor hobby due to its safety, low cost, and calming nature. ² According to researchers, regular encounters with birdlife can improve mental wellbeing for up to eight hours. ³ Furthermore, birds serve as a barometer of environmental health, serving as first responders in detecting environmental pollution, much like the figurative canary in the coalmine;
6. Birds play a critical role in our environment as they serve as pollinators, predators, seed dispersers, and scavengers. They are often referred to as "ecosystem engineers" because of their mobility, which enables them to travel long distances and connect various ecosystems. Birds contribute significantly to the natural biotic diversity of ecosystems by consuming insects and pests, reducing the spread of diseases, and enhancing the functioning and stability of ecological systems;
7. Birdwatching is a viable tourism generator in keeping with Vancouver's green and natural brand. One birding conference, the 27th International Ornithological Congress in August 2018 brought 1300 guests and \$8 million in spending to Vancouver alone. Birding tourism across the US accounted for an estimated \$41 billion in 2016;
8. Birds in our urban environment face a number of significant threats and challenges however, most notably:
 - a. Habitat loss: including tree canopy, green space, and waterways.
 - b. Climate crisis: extreme changes to weather, ecosystem and biodiversity loss.

- c. Invasive species: outcompeting native flora, domesticated predators like cats.
 - d. Building collisions: a top ranking causes of bird mortality, with 16-42 million birds colliding with clear and reflective glass on buildings every year in Canada.
 - e. Direct human disturbance: including pesticide use, excessive light and noise pollution, and litter;
9. Globally, cities are taking up the challenge with efforts to protect birds: putting stickers on windows, planting bird and pollinator friendly plants and trees, turning off office building lights at night to avoid migrating birds from crashing into them, and designing buildings and fenestration that are more bird friendly, as parts of comprehensive bird strategies;
10. Under the leadership of the Park Board's first Environmental Planner, the late Alan Duncan, Vancouver became the first Canadian city with a council-approved comprehensive bird strategy. The Vancouver Bird Strategy (first approved by Council in 2015 and updated 2020) ⁴ identified five conditions for native birds to thrive in the City:
 - a. Habitat: Protect, enhance and create habitats for a diversity of native birds;
 - b. Threat Reduction: Reduce threats to birds in the urban environment;
 - c. Access: Improve access to nature for residents and visitors to the city;
 - d. Awareness: Increase awareness of the importance of birds and their needs; and
 - e. Tourism: Encourage bird tourism and economic development opportunities related to birding;
11. Resulting from the Strategy, the Bird Friendly Design Guidelines ⁵ were implemented as a voluntary guide for applicants mainly on applicable Rezoning and Conditional Development permit applications. In 2017, the Guidelines were updated to include some lessons learned and to be 'encouraged' performance objectives rather than 'voluntary' strategies. Since then, staff have gained a much more detailed understanding of the strategies the industry finds are easily implementable and others which may be more difficult or rarely utilized;
12. Despite efforts, many of the recommendations from the updated 2020 Vancouver Bird Strategy remain unfulfilled, and human settlement, habitat loss, development, and climate change are exacerbating further stress on birds in Vancouver;
13. Vancouver was among the initial cities in Canada to receive the Bird Friendly City certification in May 2021. ⁶ However, to maintain this certification, the city needs to reapply every two years. As of now, there is a risk of Vancouver losing its certification as a Bird Friendly City by September; and
14. In the last 50 years, North American bird populations have dropped by more than 25%. The 2022 edition of BirdLife International's flagship report *State of the World's Birds* warns that nearly half of all bird species are in decline, with more

than one in eight at risk of extinction, and only a few years to collectively and globally address and reverse the crisis by 2030. ⁷

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council proclaims May 13 - 31, 2023, as Vancouver Bird Celebration.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to reapply for certification as a Bird Friendly City.
- C. THAT Council affirms its commitment to the Vancouver Bird Strategy updated in 2020 including but not limited to the following specific recommendations that the Council would like to reiterate, and direct staff to review and report back on:
 - a. Bird Friendly Design Guidelines to improve building and landscape design, and in particularly sensitive zones of the city;
 - b. Updated Bird Friendly Landscape Operational Guidelines for approval by Council and Park Board to ensure the most effective bird friendly management practices in parks and other public open spaces;
 - c. Seek to work with Tourism Vancouver, Tourism Richmond, and Destination BC to incorporate Vancouver focused content into the BC Bird Trail initiative, as a means of growing bird tourism in Vancouver and the region.
- D. THAT Council affirm its commitment to the Vancouver Bird Strategy and Bird Friendly Design Guidelines in emergent and future initiatives that consider green roofs, increasing tree canopy, rewilding, greenways, country lanes, stream daylighting, bio swales, and similar urban-natural interfaces.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to report back with an evaluation of the impact of Bird Friendly Guidelines on review and permitting timeframes through the Permit Improvement Process initiative;

FURTHER THAT staff's report back includes specific recommendation as applicable to simplify and codify otherwise discretionary bird friendly guidelines that may otherwise impact review and approval times on both standard and conditional permit approvals.

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- 1. Vancouver Bird Celebration <https://vancouverbirdcelebration.ca/>
 - 2. Audubon <https://www.audubon.org/news/birdwatching-bright-spot-pandemic-stricken-economy>
 - 3. Nature Scientific Reports <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-20207-6>
 - 4. Report: Vancouver Bird Strategy 2020
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20201209/documents/pspc1.pdf>
 - 5. Vancouver Bird Friendly Design Guidelines <https://guidelines.vancouver.ca/guidelines-bird-friendly-design.pdf>

6. Nature Canada | Bird Friendly Cities <https://naturecanada.ca/defend-nature/how-you-help-us-take-action/bfc/>
 7. BirdLife: State of the World's Birds 2022 <https://www.birdlife.org/papers-reports/state-of-the-worlds-birds-2022/>
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referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Carr
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT the motion entitled “The Bird is the Word: Elevating Vancouver’s Strategy” be referred to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on May 10, 2023, to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung, Klassan and Mayor Sim absent for the vote)

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER’S MOTIONS

1. Ensuring Healthier Climate-Smart Homes

Councillor Carr submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of May 30, 2023, as a Council Members’ Motion.

2. Endorsing the Transit for Teens Campaign to Extend BC’s Get on Board Program up to Age 18

Councillor Boyle submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of June 13, 2023, as a Council Members’ Motion.

3. Addressing Historic Inequities by Improving Infrastructure and Access to Services Across South Vancouver Neighbourhoods

Councillor Boyle submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of June 27, 2023, as a Council Members’ Motion.

4. Support for the Filipino Cultural Centre in Vancouver Campaign

Councillors Zhou and Bligh submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of June 13, 2023, as a Council Members’ Motion.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Leaves of Absence

MOVED by Councillor Carr
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT Councillor Bligh be granted a leave of absence for personal reasons, all day from July 4 to 10, 2023, inclusive, and on May 9, 2023, from 6 pm to 10 pm;

FURTHER THAT Councillor Meiszner be granted a leave of absence for civic business, from meetings on June 14, 2023, from 3 pm to 10 pm, and May 10, 2023, from 1 pm to 6 pm;

AND FURTHER THAT Councillor Dominato be granted a leave of absence for personal reasons, from meeting on May 18, 2023, from 3 pm to 10 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

1. Request for Leaves of Absence

MOVED by Councillor Montague
SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT Mayor Sim be granted leaves of absence for civic business from meetings on May 9, 2023, from 5 pm onwards, and from meetings all day on May 23, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

ENQUIRIES AND OTHER MATTERS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

Council adjourned at 5:39 pm.

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