Improving the Effectiveness of the Standards of Maintenance By-law

June 2024





Background



"Improving the Effectiveness of the Standards of Maintenance Bylaw" motion:

- Address non-compliance
- Consider raising the minimum and maximum fines
- Consider shortening the period of time in which the City can carry out necessary work
- Consider measures to prevent harms caused by heat waves
- Consider the impact of these measures on building closure

Staff memos:

- "Updates to Extreme Heat Response Plans for 2022."
- "Improving the Effectiveness of the Standards of Maintenance By-law."

Methodology



- Stakeholders consulted:
 - Private and non-profit SRO owners and operators;
 - Rental market owners and developers;
 - Tenant support advocacy groups;
 - Vancouver Coastal Health; and
 - Residential Tenancy Branch.
- Jurisdictional scan:
 - Toronto
 - Montreal
 - Victoria
 - New Westminster

- Seattle
- San Francisco
- New York City

Recommendations



- Increase maximum fines a court could impose from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for SOM offences
- Increase the minimum fines a court could impose from \$500 to \$1,000 for life-safety SOM offences
- Make life-safety SOM offences ticketable, enabling Property
 Use Inspectors to issue Municipal Ticketing Informations (MTIs)
- Reduce the number of days upon which the City may step in to carry out the necessary work at the expense of the owner from 60 days to 30 days

Recommendations



- Request that Council ask the Province of British Columbia to amend the Vancouver Charter to allow regulation of maximum indoor air temperature
- Require lodging houses post a notice of the nearest accessible cooling centre
- Ensure that openable windows remain operable
- Require snow to be removed from accessible parking stalls



