CITY OF VANCOUVER

COUNCIL REPORT

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Minor Policy Streamlining

Recommendations

A. THAT Council repeal the Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan & Economic Revitalization Strategy and the Housing Plan for the Downtown Eastside as presented in Table 1 of this report.

B. THAT Council approve amendments to the Downtown Eastside Rezoning Policy and the Rezoning Policy and Guidelines for False Creek Flats to remove redundant procedures as presented in Table 2 of this report.

C. THAT Council approve amendments to delete redundant submission requirements from various guidelines as presented in Table 3 of this report.

Purpose and Executive Summary

This report includes three recommendations to simplify and streamline existing rules based on direction from the Vancouver Plan, the Permitting Improvement Program, and Council's 3-3-3-1 motion. If adopted, the Recommendations will result in the repeal of two outdated documents that have been superseded and are no longer in use, the amendment of two policies to remove redundant procedures, and amendments of a variety of guidelines to remove redundant application submission information.

Council Authority/Previous Decisions

- Vancouver Plan (2022) – Implementation Action #1: Aligning and streamlining existing rules for city building

- 3-3-3-1 Permit Approval Framework (June 2023)

- Vancouver Plan Implementation – Land Use Policy Rationalization (November 2023) (RTS 15193)

City Manager's Comments

The City Manager concurs with the foregoing recommendations.

Context and Background

The City is working toward permitting improvements through implementation of the Permitting Improvement Program, Council's 3-3-3-1 motion, and Vancouver Plan's direction to streamline policies. Policy streamlining is a major component of implementing the Vancouver Plan, impacting various policy areas across ten concurrent projects as illustrated in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Vancouver Plan Implementation Projects

Discussion

In November, Council approved the repeal of 72 outdated policies and guidelines as part of the above-noted direction to streamline policies. This report recommends the further repeal or amendment of policies and guidelines to clarify requirements for permit applications. Table 1 sets out two documents that have been superseded and are no longer in use.

Table 1: Outdated policies recommended for repeal

Document	Document Function	Rationale for Repeal
Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan & Economic Revitalization Strategy	• Provides policy directions for Chinatown	• Superseded by the Downtown Eastside Plan
Housing Plan for the Downtown Eastside	• Provides policy direction	• Superseded by various

	for housing in the Downtown Eastside	policies including the Downtown Eastside Plan and Housing Vancouver Strategy

The review also uncovered policies and guidelines that contain redundant procedures (see Table 2) or submission information (see Table 3). Historically, land use documents are infrequently updated or repealed, and information on procedural and submission information can quickly become out-of-date as administrative processes change. Removal of redundant procedures and submission information will ensure these requirements are up-to-date and available for applicants on the City's website.

Table 2: Proposed amendments to policies to remove redundant procedures

Document	Document Function	Description of Amendments
Downtown Eastside Rezoning Policy	• Provides direction for rezoning in the Downtown Eastside	• Delete section 1.2 (Early Review Process) because it is covered by the rezoning enquiry process • Consequential section renumbering resulting from deletion of section 1.2
Rezoning Policy and Guidelines for the False Creek Flats	• Provides direction for rezoning in False Creek Flats	• Delete section 3 (Early Review Process) because it is covered by the rezoning enquiry process • Consequential section renumbering resulting from deletion of section 3

Table 3: Proposed amendments to guidelines to remove redundant submission requirements

Document	Document Function	Description of Amendments
RT-2 Multiple Dwelling Guidelines	• Provides design guidance for multiple dwellings in the RT-2 district	• Delete appendix on submission requirements
Multiple Conversion Dwelling Guidelines (RT-1 and RT-2 Districts)	• Provides design guidance for multiple conversion dwellings in the RT-1 and RT-2 districts	• Delete appendix on submission requirements
Strathcona/Kiwassa RT-3 Guidelines	• Provides design guidance for development in the RT-3 district	• Delete Appendix A on submission requirements • Consequential section renumbering resulting from deletion of Appendix A
Broadway/Commercial C-2C Guidelines	• Provides design guidance for development in the C-2C district	• Delete the section titled "Submission Requirements"
Joyce Station Area CD-1 Guidelines (Vanness Avenue North, Rae Avenue & 5000-5300 Blocks Boundary Road) (By-law No. 6528)	• Provides design guidance for development in the specified CD-1 district	• Delete the section titled "Submission Requirements"
RM-6 West End Georgia/Alberni Guidelines	• Provides design guidance for development in the RM-6 district	• Delete appendix on submission requirements
Beach Neighbourhood CD-1 Guidelines (500 and 600 Pacific Street)	• Provides design guidance for development in the specified CD-1 district	• Delete the section titled "Submission Requirements"

Policy streamlining will continue as part of Vancouver Plan implementation, including ongoing work on Granville Street, Rupert and Renfrew Station areas, Broadway Plan implementation, Citywide Development Guidelines, and other ongoing simplification.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report's recommendations.

Legal Implications

If adopted, the Recommendations will result in the repeal or amendment of a variety of policies and guidelines.

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