



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON POLICY AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

MAY 6, 2026

A meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 9:50 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall. This Council meeting was convened in person and via electronic means as authorized by the Part 14 of the *Procedure By-law*.

PRESENT:

- Councillor Peter Meiszner, Chair* (Leave of Absence – Civic Business, 1 – 5 pm)
- Mayor Ken Sim* (Leave of Absence – Civic Business, 11 am – 1 pm)
- Councillor Rebecca Bligh*
- Councillor Lisa Dominato, Vice Chair*
- Councillor Pete Fry
- Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung*
- Councillor Mike Klassen
- Councillor Lucy Maloney
- Councillor Brian Montague*
- Councillor Sean Orr
- Councillor Lenny Zhou

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Donny van Dyk, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk
Alyse Stewart, 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 team members who work hard every day to help make our city an incredible place to live, work, and play.

MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

None.

REPORTS

1. **Non-Enforcement Resolution Regarding the Operation of Horse Racing to Enable Slot Machines at 2901 East Hastings Street, Vancouver April 22, 2026**

Staff from Development, Buildings and Licensing responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Zhou

SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council direct that staff to not strictly enforce, for a period of up to three years from the date of Council approval, any requirements of the Zoning and Development By-law CD-1 (3B) Exhibition Park District and the conditions of rezoning and the development permit for the racetrack facility at Hastings Park (the Racecourse) with respect to:

- (i) securing ongoing horse racing operations to the existence of the slot machines on the site; and
- (ii) related to the ongoing operations of horse racing or horse racing facilities on the site.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11590)
(Councillors Bligh and Dominato absent for the vote)

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTIONS

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Prior to the start of Members' Motion 1, Chair Meiszner relinquished the Chair to Councillor Kirby-Yung to allow him to introduce the motion, respond to questions, and participate in debate.

* * * * *

1. **Supporting Vancouver's BIAs and Growing VANSTAT**

The Committee heard from two speakers who spoke in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Meiszner

SECONDED by Councillor Montague

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver BIA Partnership is a coalition representing all 22 Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) in the City of Vancouver, collectively representing more than 25,000 businesses and commercial property owners with approximately \$53 billion in assessed property value;
2. Business Improvement Areas play a critical role in supporting public safety, cleanliness, and economic activity at the neighbourhood level, and are key partners in identifying emerging safety concerns, repeat locations, under-reported incidents, and operational gaps affecting local businesses and public spaces;
3. For the past four years, the Mount Pleasant BIA has been using and piloting a shared, web-based incident data collection and reporting platform (“SmartrBID”), which enables the efficient, crowd-sourced capture of granular, real-time information on safety and public realm issues;
4. The SmartrBID tool offers the public, business owners, and property owners access to a quick and simple tool to report incidents. It allows for crucial information to be passed along quickly and easily via an online portal, particularly where a police or another response from authorities is not required (e.g., documenting that a shoplifting incident has occurred);
5. Adoption of SmartrBID by the Mount Pleasant community has resulted in increasing user participation and has provided improved data capture and a more timely and coordinated responses to local issues;
6. Over the past year, the South Granville BIA and Hastings Crossing BIA have successfully piloted the adoption of the SmartrBID platform in conjunction with their regular reporting procedures;
7. The Vancouver BIA Partnership has supported the implementation of a shared, web-based incident data collection and reporting platform, and SmartrBID has proven its adaptability and ease of use by local BIAs;
8. The Mount Pleasant Community Policing Centre (CPC) has also been using SmartrBID to support local public safety initiatives in conjunction with their regular reporting procedures, demonstrating the value of structured, community-based data in identifying trends, informing responses, and supporting coordination with the Vancouver Police Department (VPD);
9. Based on experience to date, SmartrBID would be a valuable tool for all Community Policing Centres (CPCs) as it supports integration between CPCs and local BIAs and facilitates the electronic forwarding of collected data to the City of Vancouver and the VPD while allowing BIA staff, contractors, and CPCs to see real-time results on locally reported issues;
10. It is important to note that SmartrBID is not a replacement for 911 or the City’s 311 system. Rather, it supports these services and helps to allocate resources

efficiently and effectively based on patterns and frequency;

11. Based on the experience with SmartrBID, the Vancouver BIA Partnership has identified an opportunity to expand the platform to additional Business Improvement Areas of sufficient scale that would benefit from participation, recognizing that smaller BIAs may not yet require or benefit from such a system;
12. The projected cost to implement the SmartrBID system is approximately \$1,000 per Business Improvement Area for initial setup and between \$200 and \$400 per month for ongoing operation, representing a proven, relatively low-cost, scalable investment in public safety and public realm data infrastructure;
13. Expanding the SmartrBID platform would support the integration of Business Improvement Areas into the VanStat program by providing consistent, standardized, and actionable neighbourhood-level data; and
14. The City maintains reserves intended to support strategic, one-time investments and pilot initiatives that enhance coordination, data quality, and evidence-based decision-making in support of public safety and community well-being.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council approve an allocation of up to \$50,000 in one-time funding to the Vancouver BIA Partnership to administer a pilot expansion of the SmartrBID incident data collection platform to up to nine additional Business Improvement Areas of sufficient scale and operational readiness, with funding to support initial setup and early-stage operating costs;

FURTHER THAT the approved funding be allocated in Q4 2026, with the pilot expansion to be implemented thereafter and the first consolidated reporting of incident data delivered to the City, including for integration into VanStat, in Q1 2027.

- B. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources where possible, to work with the Vancouver BIA Partnership to explore opportunities to integrate SmartrBID data into the City's VanStat program to strengthen neighbourhood-level intelligence and improve coordination of City responses.
- C. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources, and where possible, to explore opportunities to enhance coordination between Business Improvement Areas and City-contracted service providers, including the feasibility of enabling BIAs to submit service requests (such as graffiti removal) directly through or in alignment with the SmartrBID system.
- D. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources and where possible, to explore the feasibility of integrating relevant third-party data sources, including but not limited to data from parking and public space management providers, into a coordinated public safety data framework.

- E. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources and where possible, to report back following the initial implementation period, including on participation levels, data quality, integration with VanStat, operational impacts, and any recommendations for broader program expansion.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Meiszner
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

THAT the following be added as F and G:

- F. THAT Council delegate its authority to execute the grant agreement for the associated amount that includes terms and conditions that are consistent with the intentions of this motion, that satisfy the City's Director of Legal Services, and that disburse the grant described in this motion to the City Manager 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.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11591)

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED AND BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 11592) with Councillor Orr opposed, and Councillor Fry abstaining from the vote.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver BIA Partnership is a coalition representing all 22 Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) in the City of Vancouver, collectively representing more than 25,000 businesses and commercial property owners with approximately \$53 billion in assessed property value;
2. Business Improvement Areas play a critical role in supporting public safety, cleanliness, and economic activity at the neighbourhood level, and are key partners in identifying emerging safety concerns, repeat locations, under-reported incidents, and operational gaps affecting local businesses and public spaces;
3. For the past four years, the Mount Pleasant BIA has been using and piloting a shared, web-based incident data collection and reporting platform ("SmarterBID"), which enables the efficient, crowd-sourced capture of granular, real-time information on safety and public realm issues;

4. The SmartrBID tool offers the public, business owners, and property owners access to a quick and simple tool to report incidents. It allows for crucial information to be passed along quickly and easily via an online portal, particularly where a police or another response from authorities is not required (e.g., documenting that a shoplifting incident has occurred);
5. Adoption of SmartrBID by the Mount Pleasant community has resulted in increasing user participation and has provided improved data capture and a more timely and coordinated responses to local issues;
6. Over the past year, the South Granville BIA and Hastings Crossing BIA have successfully piloted the adoption of the SmartrBID platform in conjunction with their regular reporting procedures;
7. The Vancouver BIA Partnership has supported the implementation of a shared, web-based incident data collection and reporting platform, and SmartrBID has proven its adaptability and ease of use by local BIAs;
8. The Mount Pleasant Community Policing Centre (CPC) has also been using SmartrBID to support local public safety initiatives in conjunction with their regular reporting procedures, demonstrating the value of structured, community-based data in identifying trends, informing responses, and supporting coordination with the Vancouver Police Department (VPD);
9. Based on experience to date, SmartrBID would be a valuable tool for all Community Policing Centres (CPCs) as it supports integration between CPCs and local BIAs and facilitates the electronic forwarding of collected data to the City of Vancouver and the VPD while allowing BIA staff, contractors, and CPCs to see real-time results on locally reported issues;
10. It is important to note that SmartrBID is not a replacement for 911 or the City's 311 system. Rather, it supports these services and helps to allocate resources efficiently and effectively based on patterns and frequency;¹
11. Based on the experience with SmartrBID, the Vancouver BIA Partnership has identified an opportunity to expand the platform to additional Business Improvement Areas of sufficient scale that would benefit from participation, recognizing that smaller BIAs may not yet require or benefit from such a system;
12. The projected cost to implement the SmartrBID system is approximately \$1,000 per Business Improvement Area for initial setup and between \$200 and \$400 per month for ongoing operation, representing a proven, relatively low-cost, scalable investment in public safety and public realm data infrastructure;

¹ In most cases, BIAs have their own contractors that respond more quickly than calls through 311 services. BIAs have a more focused, granular expertise with respect to their individual BIA districts and are able to capture a granular level of data that 311 is not able to do. However, it is important to note that SmartrBID is not a replacement for 311 services which, along with 911 services, have important roles to play in a complete system.

13. Expanding the SmartrBID platform would support the integration of Business Improvement Areas into the VanStat program by providing consistent, standardized, and actionable neighbourhood-level data; and
14. The City maintains reserves intended to support strategic, one-time investments and pilot initiatives that enhance coordination, data quality, and evidence-based decision-making in support of public safety and community well-being.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council approve an allocation of up to \$50,000 in one-time funding to the Vancouver BIA Partnership to administer a pilot expansion of the SmartrBID incident data collection platform to up to nine additional Business Improvement Areas of sufficient scale and operational readiness, with funding to support initial setup and early-stage operating costs;

FURTHER THAT the approved funding be allocated in Q4 2026, with the pilot expansion to be implemented thereafter and the first consolidated reporting of incident data delivered to the City, including for integration into VanStat, in Q1 2027.

- B. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources where possible, to work with the Vancouver BIA Partnership to explore opportunities to integrate SmartrBID data into the City's VanStat program to strengthen neighbourhood-level intelligence and improve coordination of City responses.
- C. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources, and where possible, to explore opportunities to enhance coordination between Business Improvement Areas and City-contracted service providers, including the feasibility of enabling BIAs to submit service requests (such as graffiti removal) directly through or in alignment with the SmartrBID system.
- D. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources and where possible, to explore the feasibility of integrating relevant third-party data sources, including but not limited to data from parking and public space management providers, into a coordinated public safety data framework.
- E. THAT Council direct staff, within existing resources and where possible, to report back following the initial implementation period, including on participation levels, data quality, integration with VanStat, operational impacts, and any recommendations for broader program expansion.
- F. THAT Council delegate its authority to execute the grant agreement for the associated amount that includes terms and conditions that are consistent with the intentions of this motion, that satisfy the City's Director of Legal Services, and that disburse the grant described in this motion to the City Manager 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).

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Following completion of Members' Motion 1, Councillor Meiszner resumed the Chair

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2. Sound Investment: Re-instating the Vancouver Music Fund

The Committee heard from five speakers who spoke in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Orr

SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Music Fund (VMF) has previously provided targeted support to emerging artists, producers, and music businesses through small grants for recording and business development;
2. The VMF has contributed to measurable outcomes including the creation of intellectual property, local employment, and the growth of Vancouver's creative economy;
3. Vancouver City Council has previously endorsed the Vancouver Music Strategy (YVR Music Strategy) and Culture|Shift which identify music and cultural industries as important contributors to economic development, community well-being, and the city's global identity;
4. There is ongoing interest from the local music sector in the continuation or renewal of programs that support early-stage creative work and industry development;
5. The Vancouver Music Fund has varied in scale and was not established as a permanent program, including a one-time allocation in 2025 associated with the JUNO Awards;
6. Staff have advised that there is currently no identified funding source for the program, and that reinstating it in 2026 would require significant trade-offs and present operational challenges; and
7. Staff have further advised that consideration of the Vancouver Music Fund would be more appropriately aligned with the 2027 operating budget process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to explore options to reinstate or replace the Vancouver Music Fund for consideration as part of the 2027 Operating Budget, including options to restore funding at or above previous levels.
- B. THAT staff report back with program design options, eligibility criteria, and anticipated outcomes, including alignment with the Vancouver Music Strategy (YVR Music Strategy) and Culture|Shift.
- C. THAT staff report back on potential funding sources and partnership opportunities, including economic development, tourism-related, cultural funding mechanisms, and opportunities to leverage provincial or federal programs, for consideration during the 2027 budget process.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Montague

THAT A to C be deleted and replaced with the following:

- A. THAT Council direct staff, building on existing work including the Vancouver Music Strategy and Music Ecosystem Study, to identify a limited set of options to support the music sector through:
 - a. improving clarity and coordination of existing permitting and licensing processes for live music and events;
 - b. identifying opportunities within existing City policies and assets to support access to performance, rehearsal, and production spaces; and
 - c. supporting the viability of live music venues and the night-time economy through current policy tools.
- B. THAT this work be undertaken within existing resources and limited to a review of current policies, programs, and partnerships, without initiating a new comprehensive study.
- C. THAT staff report back with recommendations, anticipated outcomes, and any associated resource implications for consideration as part of the 2027 Operating Budget process, no later than Q1 2027.
- D. THAT any consideration of reinstating or creating grant-based programs be evaluated alongside these options, including identification of funding sources and alignment with broader economic development and cultural objectives.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11593)

(Councillors Bligh, Kirby-Yung, Maloney, and Orr opposed)

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 11594) with Councillor Orr opposed.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Music Fund (VMF) has previously provided targeted support to emerging artists, producers, and music businesses through small grants for recording and business development;
2. The VMF has contributed to measurable outcomes including the creation of intellectual property, local employment, and the growth of Vancouver's creative economy;
3. Vancouver City Council has previously endorsed the Vancouver Music Strategy (YVR Music Strategy) and Culture|Shift, which identify music and cultural industries as important contributors to economic development, community well-being, and the city's global identity;
4. There is ongoing interest from the local music sector in the continuation or renewal of programs that support early-stage creative work and industry development;
5. The Vancouver Music Fund has varied in scale and was not established as a permanent program, including a one-time allocation in 2025 associated with the JUNO Awards;
6. Staff have advised that there is currently no identified funding source for the program, and that reinstating it in 2026 would require significant trade-offs and present operational challenges; and
7. Staff have further advised that consideration of the Vancouver Music Fund would be more appropriately aligned with the 2027 operating budget process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff, building on existing work including the Vancouver Music Strategy and Music Ecosystem Study, to identify a limited set of options to support the music sector through:
 - a. Improving clarity and coordination of existing permitting and licensing processes for live music and events;
 - b. Identifying opportunities within existing City policies and assets to support access to performance, rehearsal, and production spaces; and

- c. Supporting the viability of live music venues and the night-time economy through current policy tools.
- B. THAT this work be undertaken within existing resources and limited to a review of current policies, programs, and partnerships, without initiating a new comprehensive study.
- C. THAT staff report back with recommendations, anticipated outcomes, and any associated resource implications for consideration as part of the 2027 Operating Budget process, no later than Q1 2027.
- D. THAT any consideration of reinstating or creating grant-based programs be evaluated alongside these options, including identification of funding sources and alignment with broader economic development and cultural objectives.

3. Supporting Community Stewardship for Eco-Corridors and Neighbourhood Greenspaces

The Committee heard from 17 speakers who spoke in support of the motion.

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*MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen*

THAT under Section 2.8(a) of the Procedure By-law, Council extend the meeting past noon in order to complete hearing from speakers on Members' Motion 3.

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

Council recessed at 12:24 pm and reconvened at 1:48 pm.

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*MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou*

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

- 1. Vancouver's eco-corridors and neighbourhood greenspaces—such as Champlain Heights Trails, Still Creek, False Creek shoreline, and a multitude of parks, urban wilds, green right of ways, community gardens, rain gardens, street

- trees, remnant wetlands, and undeveloped land—are important for urban wildlife, climate resilience, and community well-being;
2. Vancouver’s Official Development Plan prioritizes *Climate Protection and Restored Ecosystems*² and community stewardship, explicitly committing to:
 - a. Support Indigenous, land-based cultural practices, stewardship, and learning;
 - b. Protect waterfronts and waterways;
 - c. Make space for nature, protect habitat, and ensure healthy, thriving ecosystems; and
 - d. Identify key ecological attributes and corridors for restoring connectivity as highlighted on the Ecological Network vision map;
 3. Environment and greenspace stewards like Free the Fern, Still Moon Arts, Environmental Youth Alliance, Nature Vancouver, Friends of False Creek and dozens of local grass roots community stewardship groups play an important role in caring for these places through activities like habitat restoration, invasive species removal, native planting, monitoring, education, and community science;
 4. These groups require flexible funding for plants, tools, training, honoraria, promotion, volunteer recruitment, events, data collection, and general administration, but currently face limited access to grants designed specifically for local ecological stewardship. A few specific local examples include:
 - a. Free The Fern, place-based stewardship and community engagement, removing invasives, replanting native plants and cultural programming in the Champlain Heights Trail system, one of Vancouver’s last remaining native forests;
 - b. Still Moon Arts Society and partners, restoring habitat and water quality in the Still Creek watershed, one of Vancouver’s last visible salmon-bearing streams;
 - c. False Creek Friends Society, advancing shoreline stewardship, community science, and ecological awareness in False Creek;
 - d. Copley Community Orchard, on city-owned land, managed and operated by the non-profit Society offering free, public access to shared food, environmental education green space, and supporting urban biodiversity;

² City of Vancouver | Community Climate Action Grants
<https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/community-climate-action-grants.aspx>

- e. Vancouver Urban Food Forest Foundation, indigenous-focused urban food forests, medicinal gardens, Indigenous food lands and collective gardens; and
 - f. Environmental Youth Alliance, land-based education and employment training programs for equity denied youth on environmental stewardship, native plant horticulture, ecological restoration, plant medicine, and community leadership;
5. The former Greenest City Grant supported a broad range of community-led environmental stewardship projects, but has since been replaced by the Community Climate Action Grant³, which prioritizes fewer, larger, high-impact projects directly tied to emissions reduction and climate adaptation outcomes; as a result, certain supports for ecological stewardship are no longer available; and
6. While much of the work of community environmental stewardship can be done by dedicated local community volunteers, there is a need for funding for recruiting, training, communicating, and running events with these volunteers. In addition, there is increasing costs for plants, soil, equipment, staffing resources, and programming, which presents challenges for the sustainability of community-led environmental stewardship efforts. One recent example, changes to internal billing systems changes for green bins created unexpected hardship for a number of community garden spaces.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council reaffirm the value of community-led environmental stewardship as a low-cost, high-impact way to care for eco-corridors and neighbourhood greenspaces, while building community connection, local knowledge, climate resilience, and environmental responsibility.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to create a new, modest Community Environmental Stewardship Grant stream, focused specifically on:
 - a. Eco-corridors, waterways, shorelines, and neighbourhood greenspaces;
 - b. Community-led stewardship activities such as habitat restoration, invasives control, monitoring, Indigenous-led stewardship, education, and volunteer coordination; and

³ City of Vancouver | Community Climate Action Grants
<https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/community-climate-action-grants.aspx>

- c. Small, flexible grants suitable for grassroots organizations, neighbourhood groups, and volunteer-led initiatives.
- C. THAT Council further direct staff to design this grant stream to be simple and accessible, with:
 - a. A sliding scale of grants from small micro-grants to larger operational funding;
 - b. Clear eligibility and light reporting requirements; and
 - c. Attention to equity, including support for Indigenous-led, youth-led, and under-resourced communities.
- D. THAT Council request that staff report back prior to 2027 Budget considerations with:
 - a. Proposed funding levels and potential sources;
 - b. Options to align or complement existing climate or environment funding; and
 - c. Examples of how this grant stream could support pilot stewardship projects across the city.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT A be amended to add a second clause as follows:

FURTHER THAT Council recognize and acknowledge the City's many established programs that support community involvement, including the Neighbourhood Cleanup Program, Adopt-A-Catch Basin, and Snow Angels which encourage resident participation and shared stewardship of public spaces, with the City providing equipment and/or a facilitation role.

FURTHER THAT B be amended as follows:

- The words "create a new" be deleted and replaced with the words "review and seek to revise the eligibility criteria for the City's existing grants programs to enable the inclusion of"; and
- The words "Grant stream" be replaced with the word "grants"

FURTHER THAT C be amended as follows:

- The words “further to B above” be inserted after “THAT”;
- The word “design” be replaced with the words “report back prior to the 2027 Budget considerations on ways to make applications for Community Environmental Stewardship grants as”;
- The words “this grant stream to be” be deleted; and
- The words “within the existing grants funding envelope” be inserted after the word “accessible”

FURTHER THAT D be deleted and clause D’s subclauses be amended to be subclauses d, e, and f, for C;

AND FURTHER THAT the following be added as a new D:

THAT Council request a memo from Engineering staff outlining the various programs that support community stewardship of City assets, such as but not limited to:

- a. The plaza program where City staff co-manage spaces with BIAs and community partners;
- b. The social service parklet program where the City co-manages spaces with community service providers;
- c. The neighbourhood greenways program;
- d. The green streets program;
- e. The community gardens program; and
- f. The placemaking and street art program;

FURTHER THAT staff include information regarding the in-kind supports offered to individuals and/or groups involved as community partners in the care of city spaces such as plazas and neighbourhood greenways which are eligible to receive \$5,000 for stewardship services, with additional funding possible for spaces with complex social and health challenges.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11595)
(Councillors Bligh, Fry, Maloney and Orr opposed)

During discussion on the amendment above, Councillor Fry rose on a point of order under section 8.7(f) of the Procedure By-law questioning if the motion had been amended beyond the scope and intent of the motion, and whether it introduced components not contained in the original motion. The Chair ruled the amendment is in order, as it is not frivolous, dilatory, or rude.

During Councillor Bligh’s comments on the motion, as amended, Councillor Dominato rose on a

point of order under section 6.1(b) of the Procedure By-law noting the comments reflect negatively on the amendment, after which the Chair cautioned Council.

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11596).

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

- A. THAT Council reaffirm the value of community-led environmental stewardship as a low-cost, high-impact way to care for eco-corridors and neighbourhood greenspaces, while building community connection, local knowledge, climate resilience, and environmental responsibility;
- FURTHER THAT Council recognize and acknowledge the City's many established programs that support community involvement, including the Neighbourhood Cleanup Program, Adopt-A-Catch Basin, and Snow Angels which encourage resident participation and shared stewardship of public spaces, with the City providing equipment and/or a facilitation role.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to review and seek to revise the eligibility criteria for the City's existing grants programs to enable the inclusion of modest Community Environmental Stewardship grants, focused specifically on:
- a. Eco-corridors, waterways, shorelines, and neighbourhood greenspaces;
 - b. Community-led stewardship activities such as habitat restoration, invasives control, monitoring, Indigenous-led stewardship, education, and volunteer coordination; and
 - c. Small, flexible grants suitable for grassroots organizations, neighbourhood groups, and volunteer-led initiatives.
- C. THAT further to B above, Council further direct staff to report back prior to the 2027 Budget considerations on ways to make applications for Community Environmental Stewardship grants as simple and accessible within the existing grants funding envelope, with:
- a. A sliding scale of grants from small micro-grants to larger operational funding;
 - b. Clear eligibility and light reporting requirements; and
 - c. Attention to equity, including support for Indigenous-led, youth-led, and under-resourced communities;
 - d. Proposed funding levels and potential sources;
 - e. Options to align or complement existing climate or environment funding; and

- f. Examples of how this grant stream could support pilot stewardship projects across the city.
- D. THAT Council request a memo from Engineering staff outlining the various programs that support community stewardship of City assets, such as but not limited to:
- a. The plaza program where City staff co-manage spaces with BIAs and community partners;
 - b. The social service parklet program where the City co-manages spaces with community service providers;
 - c. The neighbourhood greenways program;
 - d. The green streets program;
 - e. The community gardens program; and
 - f. The placemaking and street art program;

FURTHER THAT staff include information regarding the in-kind supports offered to individuals and/or groups involved as community partners in the care of city spaces such as plazas and neighbourhood greenways which are eligible to receive \$5,000 for stewardship services, with additional funding possible for spaces with complex social and health challenges.

4. Encouraging Compact Community-Serving Options to Boost Zero Waste

The Committee heard from five speakers who spoke in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver has set a long-term goal of becoming a zero-waste city, and waste reduction and recycling remain among the most effective ways to cut emissions, reduce landfill use, and conserve resources;
Accordingly:
 - a. Vancouver has adopted Zero Waste 2040, which sets a goal of reducing waste to landfill while prioritizing waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and convenient access for residents in all housing types, particularly as the city grows more dense; and

- b. The City's Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) recognizes waste reduction and a circular economy as key strategies to lower greenhouse gas emissions, reduce embodied carbon in materials, and support resilient, low-carbon neighbourhoods;
2. Metro Vancouver reports an overall recycling and composting rate of approximately 64%, but people living in apartments and other multi-unit residential buildings consistently recycle less and send more waste to landfill than those living in single-family homes;
3. Many older or smaller multi-unit buildings, including strata apartments, rental buildings, and mixed-use developments, lack sufficient space for convenient recycling and organics collection, making participation harder for residents;
4. As Vancouver continues to grow and densify, and more people live in compact, walkable neighbourhoods, recycling systems designed around car access and large waste rooms no longer work for everyone, particularly renters, seniors, and people without vehicles;
5. Other cities have responded by placing shared recycling hubs in walkable locations, including:
 - a. Many European cities, which use clustered, on-street or neighbourhood recycling systems in dense communities;⁴
 - b. Singapore, which provides widely distributed neighbourhood recycling points and reverse-vending machines in public spaces near homes and transit;⁵ and
 - c. Seoul, which supports recycling and food-waste collection through localized systems designed for dense, pedestrian-oriented neighbourhoods;⁶
6. In British Columbia, the Return-It Express and Express & GO model shows how small-footprint, largely automated refundable container recycling facilities can be placed in grocery stores, parking areas, and other everyday destinations, reducing barriers to participation and supporting circular economy;⁷

⁴ C40 Knowledge Hub | Diversion in multi-residential settings: Toolkit for cities

https://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/article/Diversion-in-multi-residential-settings-Toolkit-for-cities?language=en_US

⁵ Singapore National Environment Agency | Recycling / Collection Points

<https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/waste-management/3r-programmes-and-resources/recycling-collection-points>

⁶ Urban SDG Knowledge Platform | Seoul Metropolitan Government | Recycling Station Project : Bringing Innovation to Recyclable waste Separation and Disposal to Residential Area

https://urbansdgplatform.org/profile/profile_caseView_detail.msc?no_case=164

⁷ Waste Recycling Mag | Superstore joins Return-It's express drop off program

<https://wasterecyclingmag.ca/collection/superstore-joins-return-its-express-drop-off-program>

7. Vancouver staff acknowledge that challenges persist in areas with older and space-constrained buildings, which is one of the considerations used to identify locations for pop-up events to manage non-refundable container recycling; and
8. Multiple urban studies confirm the lack of disposal infrastructure is a consistent predictor of higher litter and illegal dumping.⁸ Evidence suggests that community disposal hubs (neighbourhood recycling points, reuse centres, organics drop-offs) reduce litter, illegal dumping, and source contamination (improperly sorted waste) by meeting unserved disposal needs.⁹

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council recognize that many multi-unit residential buildings (especially older, smaller, or more affordable housing) do not have adequate space or design for effective recycling and organics collection, and that this is a structural barrier to achieving zero-waste goals.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to report back with policy options to ensure new buildings (particularly high-density housing) are designed to make recycling and waste reduction as convenient as garbage disposal, with minimum floor areas and formulas tied to unit count, use, and/or or FSR.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to explore zoning and development policy options that would:
 - a. Encourage spaces for recycling, organics, and reuse in new multi-unit residential and mixed-use buildings, by explicitly excluding them from gross floor area calculations; and
 - b. Support compact, shared recycling facilities as an accepted community-serving use in dense neighbourhoods.
- D. THAT Council further direct staff to explore pilot projects for community recycling hubs in dense and walkable neighbourhoods, including hubs that could be:
 - a. Located in rights-of-way, plazas, park edges, laneways, or other appropriate public spaces;
 - b. Incentivized as publicly accessible amenities in or adjacent to private development;
 - c. Designed to serve nearby residents who lack adequate in-building facilities; and

⁸ PubMed Central | Overflowing Disparities: Examining the Availability of Litter Bins in New York City
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9103464/>

⁹ Recycl3r | A simple guide to the existing recycling collection systems
<https://recycl3r.com/a-simple-guide-to-the-existing-recycling-collection-systems/>

- d. Integrated with education, wayfinding, and contamination reduction measures.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to report back with options, potential neighbourhood pilot locations, implementation considerations, equity impacts, and resource implications staff to explore community waste and recycling hubs in dense, walkable areas where in-building solutions are limited, with potential pilot neighbourhoods including:
 - a. West End, with a high proportion of older rental apartments with limited waste space and low car ownership;
 - b. Downtown South and Downtown Eastside, with dense residential population, mixed-use buildings, and accessibility challenges;
 - c. Mount Pleasant, Kitsilano and Fairview, with older low-rise residential buildings amidst rapidly increasing density, constrained service areas, and Broadway Plan driven future development; and
 - d. Commercial Drive / Grandview-Woodland, Marpole, and Joyce-Collingwood, with traditionally lower incomes and rates of vehicle ownership, as evolving transit-oriented communities.
- F. THAT Council request that staff explore partnership opportunities, including with product stewardship organizations and operators such as Return-It, to assess whether models like Return-It Express or Express & GO could be adapted for neighbourhood-scale recycling hubs in Vancouver.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Montague
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT A be amended to insert the word “space-constrained” in between the words “many” and “multi-unit”;

FURTHER THAT the following be added at the end of clause A:

FURTHER THAT Council recognize and acknowledge the City’s many measures contemplated in this motion that are already in place through existing requirements, programs, and partnerships, including solid waste space requirements in new developments, zero-waste pop-up events held city-wide, and support for Return-It depots, including the Express & GO facility on city-property on Arbutus Street;

FURTHER THAT B be amended by deleting the words “to direct staff to report back with policy options to ensure new buildings (particularly high density housing) are designed to

make recycling and waste reduction as convenient as garbage disposal, with” and inserting the words “request a memo from staff outlining the Building Bylaw changes for new developments developed by Solid Waste staff to maximize diversion opportunities and existing solid waste space requirements, including information relating”;

AND FURTHER THAT the following be added at the end of clause B:

FURTHER THAT clauses C through F be referred back to staff with a request for further information regarding the contemplated actions that may already be part of an existing City of Vancouver program, requirement, and/or partnership.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11597)
(Councillors Bligh, Fry, Maloney and Orr opposed)

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 11598) with Councillor Bligh opposed.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

- A. THAT Council recognize that many space-constrained multi-unit residential buildings (especially older, smaller, or more affordable housing) do not have adequate space or design for effective recycling and organics collection, and that this is a structural barrier to achieving zero-waste goals;

FURTHER THAT Council recognize and acknowledge the City’s many measures contemplated in this motion that are already in place through existing requirements, programs, and partnerships, including solid waste space requirements in new developments, zero-waste pop-up events held city-wide, and support for Return-It depots, including the Express & GO facility on city-property on Arbutus Street.

- B. THAT Council request a memo from staff outlining the Building By-law changes for new developments developed by Solid Waste staff to maximize diversion opportunities and existing solid waste space requirements, including information relating to minimum floor areas and formulas tied to unit count, use, and/or FSR;

FURTHER THAT C through F below be referred back to staff with a request for further information regarding the contemplated actions that may already be part of an existing City of Vancouver program, requirement, and/or partnership.

- C. THAT Council direct staff to explore zoning and development policy options that would:
- a. Encourage spaces for recycling, organics, and reuse in new multi-unit residential and mixed-use buildings, by explicitly excluding them from gross floor area calculations; and

- b. Support compact, shared recycling facilities as an accepted community-serving use in dense neighbourhoods.
- D. THAT Council further direct staff to explore pilot projects for community recycling hubs in dense and walkable neighbourhoods, including hubs that could be:
- a. Located in rights-of-way, plazas, park edges, laneways, or other appropriate public spaces;
 - b. Incentivized as publicly accessible amenities in or adjacent to private development;
 - c. Designed to serve nearby residents who lack adequate in-building facilities; and
 - d. Integrated with education, wayfinding, and contamination reduction measures.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to report back with options, potential neighbourhood pilot locations, implementation considerations, equity impacts, and resource implications staff to explore community waste and recycling hubs in dense, walkable areas where in-building solutions are limited, with potential pilot neighbourhoods including:
- a. West End, with a high proportion of older rental apartments with limited waste space and low car ownership;
 - b. Downtown South and Downtown Eastside, with dense residential population, mixed-use buildings, and accessibility challenges;
 - c. Mount Pleasant, Kitsilano and Fairview, with older low-rise residential buildings amidst rapidly increasing density, constrained service areas, and Broadway Plan driven future development; and
 - d. Commercial Drive / Grandview-Woodland, Marpole, and Joyce-Collingwood, with traditionally lower incomes and rates of vehicle ownership, as evolving transit-oriented communities.
- F. THAT Council request that staff explore partnership opportunities, including with product stewardship organizations and operators such as Return-It, to assess whether models like Return-It Express or Express & GO could be adapted for neighbourhood-scale recycling hubs in Vancouver.

5. Scaled Up Response with Small Rapid Shelter Systems

The Committee heard from six speakers who spoke in support and one speaker who spoke in opposition of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Fry
SECONDED by Councillor Maloney

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The 2025 Metro Vancouver Point-in-Time Homeless Count recorded 2,715 people experiencing homelessness in the City of Vancouver, a 12% increase since 2023 and the highest number ever recorded in the city, with approximately 40% living unsheltered outdoors. The associated City of Vancouver report, April 2026 noted: the Majority of People Experiencing Homeless are Longterm Vancouver Residents; and Income and Eviction Leading Reasons for Housing Loss;¹⁰
2. Council has previously recognized that emergency shelter capacity has not kept pace with rising need, and that many people living outdoors do not feel safe or well-served by traditional congregate shelters, leading to prolonged unsheltered homelessness;
3. In October 2020, Vancouver City Council adopted a resolution calling for “a closer look at tiny homes and shelters” as a timely, scalable, and lower-cost response to street homelessness, including reference to intentional villages such as Dignity Village in Portland and Opportunity Village in Eugene;¹¹
4. Despite this clear direction, Vancouver’s own tiny shelter pilot, opened in 2023, demonstrated that current approval, servicing, and siting processes can significantly delay projects, undermining the intent of “rapid deployment” that Council originally envisioned;¹²
5. Long-standing and successful models such as Dignity Village in Portland, operating since 2000, demonstrate that small, intentional, self-governed communities of modest shelters, supported by shared kitchens, washrooms, storage, and community rules, can provide stability, dignity, and a pathway to housing over time;¹³

¹⁰ City of Vancouver | 2025 Homeless Count – Vancouver, April 2026
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20260414/documents/r1.pdf>

¹¹ City of Vancouver | A Closer Look at Tiny Homes and Shelters, October 2020
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20201007/documents/pspc12.pdf>

¹² The Tyee | The Long, Slow Path to Vancouver’s 10 Tiny Homes, December 2023
<https://thetyee.ca/News/2023/12/20/Long-Slow-Path-Vancouver-Tiny-Homes/>

¹³ Dignity Village | <https://dignityvillage.org/>

6. More recent B.C. examples show that small-scale, rapidly deployed shelter villages can stabilize people and reduce harm, including:
 - a. Duncan's "The Village", where tiny sleeping units paired with communal facilities and 24-hour staffing have helped residents stabilize, access health care, and move toward employment and longer-term housing;¹⁴
 - b. Kelowna, where multiple tiny-home transitional sites were planned and built within months, demonstrating speed and scalability with adept political leadership, resulting in reduced encampments and better long-term outcomes for resident transition;¹⁵ and
 - c. Elsewhere in B.C., Victoria and Port Alberni have successfully established small shelter villages, and New Westminster and Campbell River are in the process of doing so;
7. Speed matters: people sleeping outside today need solutions measured in weeks and months, not years. Rapid, low-cost shelter models make it possible to deploy at smaller and more distributed scales, including parking lots, vacant or underutilized City-owned parcels, future development and temporary sites, by concentrating utility servicing on shared washroom, shower, and kitchen trailers rather than fully servicing each unit;
8. Dignity and stability save lives: a door that locks, a bed, and access to basic facilities can dramatically change outcomes. Studies from the Pacific Northwest (specifically Seattle and Portland who have years of piloting and studying rapid deployment shelters as a solution) suggests that tiny shelters are more effective than congregate shelters with higher rates of utilization (90%), higher exits to permanent housing (50-63%) and less cost to operate per successful exit than congregate shelters. The data suggest that tiny shelter villages are more cost effective with better outcomes;¹⁶
9. Homelessness harms: the evidence is clear that prolonged unsheltered homelessness is associated with increasingly complex and compounded comorbid mental health, substance use, chronic illness, infectious disease, and injury-related conditions, which significantly increase both human harm and public system costs;
10. Local context and history suggest that the City of Vancouver already bears significant public expense with status quo unsheltered homeless and

¹⁴ Globalnews | Duncan's mayor shares impact of tiny homes for the unhoused ahead of Kelowna initiative, November 2025

<https://globalnews.ca/news/10059682/duncan-mayor-impact-tiny-homes-unhoused/>

¹⁵ Kelowna Now | Kelowna mayor says 83% of tiny home residents have moved on to better things, November 2025

https://www.kelownanow.com/watercooler/news/news/Kelowna/Dyas_says_Kelowna_s_tiny_homes_are_helping_but_mandatory_care_more_prosecutors_still_needed/

¹⁶ Soundfoundations | Tiny Home Villages Work (and the Data to Prove It)

<https://soundfoundationsnw.org/tiny-home-villages-work-and-the-data-to-prove-it/>

encampments when factored for costs like sanitation, emergency response, policing, park remediation, and impacts on local economic development;

11. FIFA World Cup host cities like Seattle, facing urgent public pressure, have moved decisively to expand tiny-home villages and transitional shelter by removing administrative barriers, leasing land quickly, and approving funding on accelerated timelines, with Seattle explicitly advancing hundreds of small shelter units ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup as a matter of urgency and public responsibility;¹⁷ and
12. In April 2026, the federal government announced \$125m in new additional funding for the Unsheltered Homelessness and Encampments Initiative (UHEI), to support housing development, shelter transformation projects, and assist persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness and living in encampments find more stable housing solutions in partnership with the province delivered through Community Encampment Response Plans.¹⁸

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council reaffirm its support for small, rapidly deployable shelter systems—including tiny shelters, micro-units, and intentional village models—as a necessary and humane component of Vancouver’s homelessness response continuum.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to identify and advance a scalable framework for small-footprint, rapid-deployment shelter sites, designed to:
 - Be delivered quickly using standardized and/or prefab off the shelf units;
 - Operate at smaller scales (e.g., 20–40 units per site);
 - Rely on shared, minimally serviced communal facilities (washrooms, showers, kitchens, laundry, and common space); and
 - Provide basic safety, privacy, and stability for people currently living unsheltered.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to prioritize deployment on sites where full utility servicing is not required, including under-used parking lots, vacant or interim City-owned land, and other appropriate temporary sites, enabling faster delivery and lower capital cost.

¹⁷ King 5 | Seattle City Council makes moves to meet city's homelessness response goals
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/seattle-city-council-makes-moves-233953176.html>

¹⁸ Canada | Federal government strengthens support to address homelessness
<https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2026/04/federal-government-strengthens-support-to-address-homelessness.html>

- D. THAT Council further direct staff to explicitly draw lessons from:
- Council's 2020 motion on tiny homes and shelters;
 - Long-running intentional communities such as Dignity Village (Portland);
 - Recent B.C. village-style shelter models in Duncan and Kelowna;
 - Seattle's accelerated FIFA-response shelter expansion and removal of administrative barriers in response to urgent public timelines.
- E. THAT Council request staff to identify regulatory and operational changes—including permitting, servicing standards, and site approval processes—that could enable faster, repeatable deployment, while maintaining health, safety, and neighbourhood accountability;
- FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to engage with BC Housing staff to leverage resourcing and funding opportunities through HEART & HEARTH, the Encampment & Homelessness Response, and the recently announced federal government Unsheltered Homelessness and Encampments Initiative.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to report back outlining:
- a. Immediate opportunities for small-scale pilot or expansion sites;
 - b. Expected costs and delivery timelines compared to traditional shelter builds;
 - c. How these systems can support transitions into supportive and permanent housing; and
 - d. How a scaled-up rapid shelter approach could meaningfully reduce the number of people living unsheltered, consistent with the findings of the 2025 Homeless Count.

LOST (Vote No. 11599)

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

(Councillor Bligh abstained from the vote)

6. Keeping the Session Rolling: Renewal of the Hastings Park Skateboard Facility

The Committee heard from six speakers who spoke in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Orr

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The skateboard park at Hastings Park is a premier public recreational amenity in the City of Vancouver, serving a wide spectrum of users ranging from local youth to professional and competition-level skateboarders;
2. The Hastings Park skateboard facility functions as one of the primary training venues in the region for high-performance skateboarding, including athletes preparing for national and international competition;
3. The facility will be temporarily unavailable to the public during June and July 2026 due to operational requirements associated with Vancouver's role as a host city for the FIFA World Cup;
4. This temporary closure will result in a significant loss of access for regular users, including local residents, youth, and elite athletes who rely on the facility for training, recreation, and community connection;
5. The Hastings Park skateboard facility is currently in need of renewal and lifecycle reinvestment, with estimated capital costs of approximately \$500,000 to address wear, safety, and modernization needs; and
6. Major international events place additional pressures on existing public amenities and present an opportunity to ensure that impacted community spaces are restored and improved for long-term public benefit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to include in the 2027–2030 Capital Plan an allocation of approximately \$500,000 for the renewal and upgrading of the Hastings Park skateboard facility, to be delivered following the FIFA World Cup period.
- B. THAT this skateboard facility investment be advanced as a priority to address the temporary loss of access to the facility during the FIFA World Cup period and to ensure its continued function as a high-quality recreational and high-performance sport asset.
- C. THAT staff be directed to engage with local user groups, including youth, community skateboarders, high-performance athletes, and representatives from the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition, to inform the design and functionality of the renewed facility;

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to engage with the PNE regarding the planned renewal and upgrading of this asset.

- D. THAT staff report back in Q3 2026 with a proposed scope, timeline, and funding strategy for the Hastings Park skateboard facility renewal, including consideration of potential partnerships, sponsorships, and senior government contributions where appropriate.

amended

* * * * *

At this time, Chair Meiszner relinquished the Chair to Vice Chair Dominato and left the meeting.

* * * * *

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Orr
SECONDED by Councillor Maloney

THAT the following be added as E:

THAT staff engage with the PNE to explore all options available to keep the Hastings Skatepark open during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

LOST (Vote No. 11600)
(Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung, Klassen, Montague, Zhou and Mayor Sim opposed)
(Councillor Meiszner absent for the vote)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Maloney
SECONDED by Councillor Orr

THAT C be amended to delete the word “and” between the words “high-performance athletes” and “representatives”, and to insert the words “and the Vancouver Park Board” after the words ‘Skateboard Coalition’.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11614)
(Councillor Meiszner absent for the vote)

The amendments having either lost or carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11601) with Councillor Meiszner absent for the vote.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

WHEREAS

1. The skateboard park at Hastings Park is a premier public recreational amenity in the City of Vancouver, serving a wide spectrum of users ranging from local youth to professional and competition-level skateboarders;
2. The Hastings Park skateboard facility functions as one of the primary training venues in the region for high-performance skateboarding, including athletes preparing for national and international competition;
3. The facility will be temporarily unavailable to the public during June and July 2026 due to operational requirements associated with Vancouver's role as a host city for the FIFA World Cup;
4. This temporary closure will result in a significant loss of access for regular users, including local residents, youth, and elite athletes who rely on the facility for training, recreation, and community connection;
5. The Hastings Park skateboard facility is currently in need of renewal and lifecycle reinvestment, with estimated capital costs of approximately \$500,000 to address wear, safety, and modernization needs; and
6. Major international events place additional pressures on existing public amenities and present an opportunity to ensure that impacted community spaces are restored and improved for long-term public benefit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to include in the 2027–2030 Capital Plan an allocation of approximately \$500,000 for the renewal and upgrading of the Hastings Park skateboard facility, to be delivered following the FIFA World Cup period.
- B. THAT this skateboard facility investment be advanced as a priority to address the temporary loss of access to the facility during the FIFA World Cup period and to ensure its continued function as a high-quality recreational and high-performance sport asset.
- C. THAT staff be directed to engage with local user groups, including youth, community skateboarders, high-performance athletes, and representatives from the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition, and the Vancouver Park Board to inform the design and functionality of the renewed facility;

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to engage with the PNE regarding the planned renewal and upgrading of this asset.

D. THAT staff report back in Q3 2026 with a proposed scope, timeline, and funding

* * * * *

At this point in the meeting Councillor Meiszner returned to the meeting and resumed the role of Chair.

* * * * *

7. Implementing a Robotic Food Delivery Pilot in the City of Vancouver

The Committee heard from six speakers who spoke in support of the motion.

* * * * *

After hearing from speakers on Members' Motion 7, it was

*MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh*

THAT under Section 2.8(b) of the Procedure By-law, the Committee extend the meeting until 6:30 pm in order to complete the remainder of the agenda.

*CARRIED AND BY THE
REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Councillors Fry, Maloney, Orr opposed)*

* * * * *

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

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver is a city of innovation, becoming known as a preeminent North American tech hub with world class talent, leading the globe in areas such as virtual reality, augmented reality, bio tech, green tech, and more;
2. Tech companies of all shapes and sizes, like Microsoft, Amazon, Apple, Samsung, SAP, and other, are choosing Vancouver as a place to do business;
3. This Council has made technological innovation a priority, through a robust advocacy for the business community, and enabling tech hubs across the city;

4. Serve Robotics is an established leader in the field of robotics and autonomous delivery, with a track record of success in many major North American cities, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Chicago;
5. Serve has presented a pilot program proposal to the Mayor's Office, members of Council, and the Government of British Columbia to activate their autonomous delivery robots in Vancouver;
6. A pilot program would allow for a thoughtful and pragmatic approach to testing emerging technology while maintaining public safety, accessibility, and community engagement; and
7. A pilot program represents an important opportunity to explore innovative urban delivery solutions, assess regulatory and operational considerations, and gather evidence to inform future policy decisions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to work with Serve Robotics, in collaboration with Engineering Services and all other relevant City departments, to develop a six (6) month pilot program to activate a fleet of Serve Robotics delivery robots in Downtown Vancouver and Kitsilano, commencing in the fall of 2026;

FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council following the pilot program with their findings and potential recommendations.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to prepare amendments to the Street Vending By-law to include autonomous sidewalk robots, along with any other requisite amendments to the by-law to allow for the pilot program's implementation.
- C. THAT Council request that the Mayor write to the Provincial government to confirm their authorization of autonomous delivery robots under the definition of designated micro-utility devices in Bill 23, Motor Vehicle Amendment Act 2023.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Maloney
SECONDED BY Councillor Orr

THAT Council refer the motion entitled "Implementing a Robotic Food Delivery Pilot in the City of Vancouver" to staff for consideration of the legal implications for denial of access to sidewalk facilities for people with disabilities under the Human Rights Code, in light of the opposition of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind to sidewalk robots and recent Human Rights Tribunal decisions about sidewalk safety.

LOST (Vote No. 11602)

(Councilors Kirby-Yung, Klassen, Meiszner, Montague, Zhou and Mayor Sim opposed)
(Councillor Bligh abstained from the vote)
(Councillor Dominato absent for the vote)
AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Bligh
SECONDED by Councillor Orr

THAT A be deleted and replaced as follows:

THAT Council direct staff to work with industry partners, including Serve Robotics, in collaboration with Engineering Services and all other relevant City departments, to develop a limited-scale, precautionary, and evidence-based six (6) month pilot program to test autonomous food delivery robots in Downtown Vancouver and Kitsilano, commencing in fall 2026;

FURTHER THAT the pilot program be limited to a maximum of twelve (12) delivery robots operating collectively across Downtown Vancouver and Kitsilano for the duration of the pilot period, unless otherwise authorized by Council following evaluation;

FURTHER THAT the pilot be limited in scale, geography, and fleet size, as determined by staff, and exclude high-density pedestrian areas, narrow sidewalks, and locations adjacent to schools, transit hubs, and other sensitive sites, where staff determine operation may create unacceptable safety or accessibility risks;

FURTHER THAT participating devices be subject to operational requirements established by staff, including low maximum speeds, mandatory yielding to pedestrians at all times, and strict prohibition on obstructing sidewalks, curb cuts, accessible routes, transit stops, or other elements of the public right-of-way;

FURTHER THAT staff engage with local disability advocacy organizations and accessibility stakeholders, including COV Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the pilot program, and that accessibility requirements be established as enforceable conditions of participation;

FURTHER THAT participating operators demonstrate clear and intuitive methods of communication with pedestrians, including visible signaling of device intent and safe navigation behaviour;

FURTHER THAT participating operators be required to provide regular, standardized data to the City, including but not limited to safety incidents, accessibility impacts, pedestrian interactions, operational performance, complaints received, and any enforcement issues;

FURTHER THAT participating operators be required to carry appropriate insurance, assume full liability for any damages, injuries, or incidents arising from pilot operations, to the satisfaction of the City's Risk Management and Legal Services, and maintain the ability for immediate human intervention and rapid

removal of any malfunctioning, immobilized, or obstructing device from the public right-of-way;

FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council prior to implementation of the pilot program with a defined evaluation framework, including criteria related to safety, accessibility, public feedback, operational performance, regulatory compliance, and clear thresholds for success, modification, suspension, or termination of the pilot;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council following completion of the pilot program with findings, evaluation results, and recommendations regarding whether the program should be expanded, modified, or discontinued;

FURTHER THAT B be deleted and replaced as follows:

THAT Council direct staff to prepare any necessary temporary or pilot-specific amendments to the Street Vending By-law, and any other required by-laws, to enable implementation of the pilot program;

FURTHER THAT staff report back with recommendations regarding any permanent by-law amendments only following completion and evaluation of the pilot program;

AND FURTHER THAT C be amended to add the following words at the end “and report back to Council on the implications of such authorization for municipal regulation, enforcement, and liability”.

LOST (Vote No. 11603)

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

(Councillor Maloney abstained from the vote)

(Councillor Montague absent for the vote)

Prior to the vote, the Committee agreed to separate the components of the motion. The amendments having lost, the original motion was severed as follows:

- A. THAT Council direct staff to work with Serve Robotics, in collaboration with Engineering Services and all other relevant City departments, to develop a six (6) month pilot program to activate a fleet of Serve Robotics delivery robots in Downtown Vancouver and Kitsilano, commencing in the fall of 2026;

FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council following the pilot program with their findings and potential recommendations.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to prepare amendments to the Street Vending By-law to include autonomous sidewalk robots, along with any other requisite amendments to the by-law to allow for the pilot program’s implementation.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11604)

(Councillors Maloney and Orr opposed)
(Councillors Bligh and Fry abstained from the vote)

- C. THAT Council request that the Mayor write to the Provincial government to confirm their authorization of autonomous delivery robots under the definition of designated micro-utility devices in Bill 23, Motor Vehicle Amendment Act 2023.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11605)
(Councillor Maloney opposed)
(Councillor Orr abstained from the vote)

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver is a city of innovation, becoming known as a preeminent North American tech hub with world class talent, leading the globe in areas such as virtual reality, augmented reality, bio tech, green tech, and more;
2. Tech companies of all shapes and sizes, like Microsoft, Amazon, Apple, Samsung, SAP, and other, are choosing Vancouver as a place to do business;
3. This Council has made technological innovation a priority, through a robust advocacy for the business community, and enabling tech hubs across the city;
4. Serve Robotics is an established leader in the field of robotics and autonomous delivery, with a track record of success in many major North American cities, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Chicago;
5. Serve has presented a pilot program proposal to the Mayor's Office, members of Council, and the Government of British Columbia to activate their autonomous delivery robots in Vancouver;
6. A pilot program would allow for a thoughtful and pragmatic approach to testing emerging technology while maintaining public safety, accessibility, and community engagement; and
7. A pilot program represents an important opportunity to explore innovative urban delivery solutions, assess regulatory and operational considerations, and gather evidence to inform future policy decisions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to work with Serve Robotics, in collaboration with Engineering Services and all other relevant City departments, to develop a six (6)

month pilot program to activate a fleet of Serve Robotics delivery robots in Downtown Vancouver and Kitsilano, commencing in the fall of 2026;

FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council following the pilot program with their findings and potential recommendations.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to prepare amendments to the Street Vending By-law to include autonomous sidewalk robots, along with any other requisite amendments to the by-law to allow for the pilot program's implementation.
- C. THAT Council request that the Mayor write to the Provincial government to confirm their authorization of autonomous delivery robots under the definition of designated micro-utility devices in Bill 23, Motor Vehicle Amendment Act 2023.

8. Proactively Protecting Residents from Dangerous Heat

The Committee heard from eight speakers who spoke in support and one speaker who spoke to other aspects of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Maloney
SECONDED by Councillor Fry

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Environment and Climate Change Canada projects 2026 to be one of the hottest years on record, consistent with a long-term trend of warming summers in British Columbia ([B.C. government](#), 2026);
2. Hotter summer temperatures place residents at heightened risk of prolonged heat exposure;
3. Indoor temperature in Vancouver's older buildings regularly exceed health authorities' safe indoor guidelines as early as June, and consistently surpass outdoor temperatures even overnight ([Vancouver Indoor Heat Study](#), 2024; [Extreme and prolonged indoor heat in Vancouver's Single Room Occupancy Hotels](#), 2025);
4. The lack of access to nighttime cooling, and prolonged heat exposure increases health risks associated with heatwaves ([Kenny et al.](#), 2024; [Henderson et al.](#), 2022);
5. While the City operates seasonal cooling infrastructure in line with regional heat alerts, current measures remain largely focused on delivering emergency heat relief during extreme heat alerts and depends on resource availability and activation thresholds being met ([BC HARS](#), 2025; [City of Vancouver](#), 2026);

6. Existing barriers to accessing community cool spaces include limited opening-hours, hot and unreliable transportation ([Climate Lived Experience and Resilience \(CLEAR\) Report](#), Vancouver Coastal Health, 2026);
7. The uncertainty of access to cooling for vulnerable residents is compounded by the diminution in funding for preventive heat relief measures, such as the distribution of cooling kits;
8. Research has shown that more reliable access to cooling spaces and clean air in Vancouver — during and outside of declared extreme heat alerts — could be achieved by expanding the City's existing services through the opening of extended-hours cooling centres from June to August, the provision of cooling transit, the deployment of accessible mobile outreach; and sustained funding for translated services and other cooling supports, such as cool kits ([Staying Cool: Experiences and Challenges Using Cooling Centres in Metro Vancouver](#), 2025);
9. Some of these solutions have already been established by community organizations and would benefit from continued and reliable municipal support and funding ([Vancouver Emergency Management Agency](#), 2023; [CBC](#), 2025);
10. Ensuring Vancouver's preparedness for warmer summer months will necessitate dedicated and sustained funding to cooling programs and services; and
11. Expanding data collection would support a better understanding of inequities in access to cooling services — as underlined by federal climate justice objectives — as well as the evaluation of program outcomes and the identification of staff training needs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council affirm its commitment to delivering extended access to cooling centres, spaces, and related infrastructure throughout the summer months, acknowledging the life-threatening impact of prolonged heat exposure on the City's residents.
- B. THAT Council approve funding from the operating budget, or appropriate City reserves, contingency funds, or other available sources to ensure sufficient resources are available to support vital cooling infrastructure throughout the summer months of 2026, including:
 - a. Additional funding to operate cooling centres with extended hours and capacity beyond declared extreme heat events;
 - b. Support for additional staff training in cooling spaces to better support service users; and
 - c. Sustained funding to other vital cooling projects, such as cool kits for those who are unable to reach community cooling spaces.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to:

- a. Report back on the feasibility to repurpose existing City vehicle as a dedicated mobile cooling resource, ensuring accessible heat relief for vulnerable and unhoused residents during declared extreme heat alert periods;
 - b. Identify and pursue partnerships to expand the number of cooling centres in neighbourhoods disproportionately impacted by urban heat;
 - c. Include dedicated funding in the 2027–2030 capital plan to close tree canopy gaps and advance the urban forest strategy; and
 - d. Collect disaggregated data from heat relief services to strengthen future climate policy and programming.
- D. THAT Council request the Mayor write to TransLink advocating for the deployment of air-conditioned transit vehicles throughout the summer months, to ensure vulnerable residents can safely access cooling centres, especially buses operating in areas of Vancouver that are disproportionately impacted by urban heat.
- E. THAT Council request the Mayor write to the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and TransLink for a collaborative approach to fund fare-free transit during declared extreme heat alerts.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Zhou
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

THAT A be amended as follows:

- The words “Council acknowledge the City’s extensive measures to protect residents from extreme and dangerous heat levels and” be inserted in between the words “THAT” and “affirm”;
- The word “Council’s” be inserted in between the words “affirm” and “commitment”;
- The following be added:

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to implement a vigorous and urgent public information campaign around the City’s extreme heat measure in anticipation of the coming heat of summer;

FURTHER THAT B through E be deleted;

AND FURTHER THAT the following be added as B:

THAT staff provide a memo to Council outlining the City's extensive and reasonable measures to protect residents from extreme and dangerous heat levels within the context of the City's jurisdiction and resources, including information regarding (but not limited to):

- a. The City's robust network of community centres and public library branches that are open throughout the summer that provide access to indoor space;
- b. The City's established extreme heat response activation guidelines, which are aligned with Provincial guidelines, and activated by the City in collaboration with a focussed number of external partners who provide effective cooling spaces during declared extreme heat events;
- c. Incremental costs for activating cooling centres during declared extreme heat events which are recoverable from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness;
- d. Park Board's tree modeling work currently underway that will assess gaps in tree canopy and inform tree planting priorities, as well as scheduled work by PDS sustainability staff related to analysis of cooling dead zones scheduled to begin at the end of 2026 and be completed by December 2027; and
- e. Strategic partnerships and other strategic relationships with organizations such as the Food Bank that enhance the City's preparedness for extreme heat events.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11606)
(Councillors Bligh, Fry, Maloney and Orr opposed)
(Councillors Dominato and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

During debate on the amendment above, Councillor Zhou rose on a point of order under section 6.1(c) of the Procedure By-law regarding comments made during debate, the Chair then cautioned Council.

Subsequently, Councillor Klassen rose on a point of order under section 6.1(b) of the Procedure By-law regarding remarks that may have negatively reflected on another Council member, the Chair then cautioned Council.

* * * * *

At this point in the meeting, it was,

*MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou*

THAT under Section 2.8(b) of the Procedure By-law, the Committee further extend the meeting past 6:30 pm in order to complete the remainder of the agenda.

*CARRIED AND BY THE
REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Councillors Maloney and Orr opposed)
(Councillor Fry abstained from the vote)*

Council recessed at 6:34 pm and reconvened at 6:45 pm.

* * * * *

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Zhou
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

THAT the following be added as C:

THAT Council direct staff to contact the Province to discuss the need to enable emergency funding for municipalities to proactively pre-distribute cool kits and AQ kits for vulnerable residents through the provincially funded ESS program.

CARRIED (Vote No. 11608)
(Councillors Bligh, Fry, Maloney and Orr opposed)
(Councillors Dominato and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

The amendments having carried the motion as amended was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 11609) with Councillors Bligh, Fry, Maloney and Orr opposed.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

WHEREAS

1. Environment and Climate Change Canada projects 2026 to be one of the hottest years on record, consistent with a long-term trend of warming summers in British Columbia ([B.C. government](#), 2026);
2. Hotter summer temperatures place residents at heightened risk of prolonged heat exposure;
3. Indoor temperature in Vancouver's older buildings regularly exceed health authorities' safe indoor guidelines as early as June, and consistently surpass outdoor temperatures even overnight ([Vancouver Indoor Heat Study](#), 2024);

[Extreme and prolonged indoor heat in Vancouver's Single Room Occupancy Hotels](#), 2025);

4. The lack of access to nighttime cooling, and prolonged heat exposure increases health risks associated with heatwaves ([Kenny et al.](#), 2024; [Henderson et al](#), 2022);
5. While the City operates seasonal cooling infrastructure in line with regional heat alerts, current measures remain largely focused on delivering emergency heat relief during extreme heat alerts and depends on resource availability and activation thresholds being met ([BC HARS](#), 2025; [City of Vancouver](#), 2026);
6. Existing barriers to accessing community cool spaces include limited opening-hours, hot and unreliable transportation ([Climate Lived Experience and Resilience \(CLEAR\) Report](#), Vancouver Coastal Health, 2026);
7. The uncertainty of access to cooling for vulnerable residents is compounded by the diminution in funding for preventive heat relief measures, such as the distribution of cooling kits;
8. Research has shown that more reliable access to cooling spaces and clean air in Vancouver — during and outside of declared extreme heat alerts — could be achieved by expanding the City's existing services through the opening of extended-hours cooling centres from June to August, the provision of cooling transit, the deployment of accessible mobile outreach; and sustained funding for translated services and other cooling supports, such as cool kits ([Staying Cool: Experiences and Challenges Using Cooling Centres in Metro Vancouver](#), 2025);
9. Some of these solutions have already been established by community organizations and would benefit from continued and reliable municipal support and funding ([Vancouver Emergency Management Agency](#), 2023; [CBC](#), 2025);
10. Ensuring Vancouver's preparedness for warmer summer months will necessitate dedicated and sustained funding to cooling programs and services; and
11. Expanding data collection would support a better understanding of inequities in access to cooling services — as underlined by federal climate justice objectives — as well as the evaluation of program outcomes and the identification of staff training needs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council acknowledge the City's extensive measures to protect residents from extreme and dangerous heat levels and affirm Council's commitment to delivering extended access to cooling centres, spaces, and related infrastructure throughout the summer months, acknowledging the life-threatening impact of prolonged heat exposure on the City's residents;

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to implement a vigorous and urgent public information campaign around the City's extreme heat measure in anticipation of the coming heat of summer.

- B. THAT staff provide a memo to Council outlining the City's extensive and reasonable measures to protect residents from extreme and dangerous heat levels within the context of the City's jurisdiction and resources, including information regarding (but not limited to):
- a. the City's robust network of community centres and public library branches that are open throughout the summer that provide access to indoor space;
 - b. the City's established extreme heat response activation guidelines, which are aligned with Provincial guidelines, and activated by the City in collaboration with a focussed number of external partners who provide effective cooling spaces during declared extreme heat events;
 - c. incremental costs for activating cooling centres during declared extreme heat events which are recoverable from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness;
 - d. Park Board's tree modeling work currently underway that will assess gaps in tree canopy and inform tree planting priorities, as well as scheduled work by PDS sustainability staff related to analysis of cooling dead zones scheduled to begin at the end of 2026 and be completed by December 2027; and
 - e. strategic partnerships and other strategic relationships with organizations such as the Food Bank that enhance the City's preparedness for extreme heat events.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to contact the Province to discuss the need to enable emergency funding for municipalities to proactively pre-distribute cool kits and AQ kits for vulnerable residents through the provincially funded ESS program.

9. Evaluating Vancouver's Waste Collection System's Potential to Adapt as our City Grows

The Committee heard from one speaker who spoke in support and one speaker who spoke in opposition of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Maloney
SECONDED by Councillor Orr

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver is undergoing significant densification of its neighbourhoods, with city-wide zoning changes integrating higher-density residential development alongside commercial, retail, and community uses;
2. The ongoing densification of Vancouver's neighbourhoods is placing new demands on waste collection services;
3. Most of the solid waste collection in Vancouver happens through private waste collection services, with the City of Vancouver being responsible only for a small proportion of garbage collection for single family houses and strata duplexes;
4. In the current open market situation, overlapping routes are prevalent, and a single laneway will be serviced by several private haulers;
5. Overlapping routes and increased frequency of garbage collection pick-ups result in more traffic congestion, noise disruption, air pollution, and impacts road safety;
6. These growing challenges directly affect the livability of the City and impacts equity between businesses;
7. Vancouver waste collection system hasn't been recently updated but the City of Vancouver has authority to establish conditions on solid waste management collection that vary by waste class, person, property, area, or service type;
8. Many North American cities have encountered these challenges as urban density increased and have developed a range of regulatory approaches from which Vancouver can draw;
9. New regulatory instruments have the potential to both tackle waste collection and diversion related challenges; and
10. The harmonization of Vancouver solid waste collection system should be treated as a priority to safeguard the livability and equity of our growing city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to report back with information and recommendation to Council by July 15, 2026, with an overview of the current state of garbage collection in the City, identifying the challenges and opportunities.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to identify data gaps in the City's garbage collection system that could inform further decision making that reflects the changing circumstances of our growing City by Q4 2026, including:
 - (i) Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our City's waste collection system; and
 - (ii) Minimizing the effects on communities of the garbage collection system.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou

THAT A and B be deleted and replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the motion titled “Evaluating Vancouver’s Waste Collection System’s Potential to Adapt as Our City Grows” be referred for information to the regular monthly VanStat Performance Review Meetings (PRMs), with specific direction to the VanStat meeting group to review and seek to improve the coordination and optimization of private waste collection services by private haulers, with overlapping routes, in higher-density residential, commercial, retail, and community use areas of the city, and

FURTHER THAT Council affirm staff’s recognition that increasing densification in the city affects waste collection operations and is therefore a foundational element considered in all waste collection planning.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to explore and report back on returning to weekly waste collection where the city directly provides waste collection services through the City’s Engineering Department.

LOST (Vote No. 11607)
(Councillors Bligh, Fry, Orr, and Maloney opposed)
(Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung and Montague absent for the vote)

Prior to the vote on the amendment above, Councillor Orr rose on a point of order under section 8.7(f) of the Procedure By-law, noting the amendment was dilatory and asked the Chair to rule on whether it’s in order. The Chair ruled the amendment was not considered as delaying action and remained in order, and discussion continued.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Zhou
SECONDED by Councillor Klassen

THAT A be amended to strike the words “July 15, 2026”, and replace with the words “Q1 2027”;

FURTHER THAT B be amended to strike the words “Q4 2026”, and replace with the words “Q1 2027”;

AND FURTHER THAT the following be added as C:

THAT Council direct staff to explore and report back on returning to weekly waste collection, where the city directly provides waste collection services through the City’s Engineering Department.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11611)
(Councillors Kirby-Yung and Montague absent for the vote)

The amendments having either lost or carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 11612) with Councillors Kirby-Yung and Montague absent for the vote.

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver is undergoing significant densification of its neighbourhoods, with city-wide zoning changes integrating higher-density residential development alongside commercial, retail, and community uses;
2. The ongoing densification of Vancouver's neighbourhoods is placing new demands on waste collection services;
3. Most of the solid waste collection in Vancouver happens through private waste collection services, with the City of Vancouver being responsible only for a small proportion of garbage collection for single family houses and strata duplexes;
4. In the current open market situation, overlapping routes are prevalent, and a single laneway will be serviced by several private haulers;
5. Overlapping routes and increased frequency of garbage collection pick-ups result in more traffic congestion, noise disruption, air pollution, and impacts road safety;
6. These growing challenges directly affect the livability of the City and impacts equity between businesses;
7. Vancouver waste collection system hasn't been recently updated but the City of Vancouver has authority to establish conditions on solid waste management collection that vary by waste class, person, property, area, or service type;
8. Many North American cities have encountered these challenges as urban density increased and have developed a range of regulatory approaches from which Vancouver can draw;
9. New regulatory instruments have the potential to both tackle waste collection and diversion related challenges; and
10. The harmonization of Vancouver solid waste collection system should be treated as a priority to safeguard the livability and equity of our growing city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to report back with information and recommendation to Council by Q1 2027 July 15, 2026, with an overview of the current state of garbage collection in the City, identifying the challenges and opportunities.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to identify data gaps in the City's garbage collection system that could inform further decision making that reflects the changing circumstances of our growing City by Q1 2027 Q4 2026, including: (i) Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our City's waste collection system; and (ii) Minimizing the effects on communities of the garbage collection system.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to explore and report back on returning to weekly waste collection, where the city directly provides waste collection services through the City's Engineering Department.

The Committee adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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

MAY 6, 2026

A meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 7:30 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.

PRESENT: Mayor Ken Sim
Councillor Rebecca Bligh
Councillor Lisa Dominato
Councillor Pete Fry
Councillor Mike Klassen
Councillor Lucy Maloney
Councillor Peter Meiszner
Councillor Sean Orr
Councillor Lenny Zhou

ABSENT: Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung
Councillor Brian Montague

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk
Alyse Stewart, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
Wednesday, May 6, 2026

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

Reports:

1. Non-Enforcement Resolution Regarding the Operation of Horse Racing to Enable Slot Machines at 2901 East Hastings Street, Vancouver

Council Members' Motions:

1. Supporting Vancouver's BIAs and Growing VANSTAT
2. Sound Investment: Re-instating the Vancouver Music Fund
3. Supporting Community Stewardship for Eco-Corridors and Neighbourhood Greenspaces
4. Encouraging Compact Community-Serving Options to Boost Zero Waste
5. Scaled Up Response with Small Rapid Shelter Systems

6. Keeping the Session Rolling: Renewal of the Hastings Park Skateboard Facility
7. Implementing a Robotic Food Delivery Pilot in the City of Vancouver
8. Proactively Protecting Residents from Dangerous Heat
9. Evaluating Vancouver's Waste Collection System's Potential to Adapt as our City Grows

Report 1 and Council Members' Motions 1 to 9

MOVED by Councillor Bligh
SECONDED by Councillor Meiszner

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities at its meeting of May 6, 2026, as contained in items Report 1, and Council Members' Motions 1 to 9, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND MOTION 1
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

URGENT BUSINESS

MOVED by Councillor Orr
SECONDED by Councillor Meiszner

THAT Councillor Orr be granted a Leave of Absence on May 13, 2026, from 3 pm onwards for Civic Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Bligh
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 7:32 pm.

* * * * *