

COUNCIL MEMBER'S MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on
July 15, 2026*

6. Protecting and Planning for Vancouver's Waterfront Precinct

Submitted by: Councillor Orr

WHEREAS

1. The Waterfront Station and central harbour precinct constitute one of Vancouver's most historically, culturally, economically, and symbolically significant urban areas;
2. The precinct serves as Metro Vancouver's primary multimodal transportation gateway, integrating regional rail, rapid transit, bus, ferry, cycling, pedestrian, tourism, and cruise ship infrastructure;
3. The area includes nationally significant heritage resources, important public waterfront interfaces, and defining views and skyline relationships associated with Vancouver's identity;
4. Major development proposals continue to emerge within and adjacent to the precinct, including at 601 West Cordova Street, with cumulative implications for skyline form, public realm, transportation integration, heritage context, climate resilience, and public access; and
5. The City of Vancouver does not currently have an up-to-date comprehensive public waterfront plan or integrated planning framework for the Waterfront Station and central harbour precinct.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council direct staff to report back on the scope, timing, and resource requirements for a comprehensive Central Waterfront / Waterfront Station Precinct Planning Program, undertaken in collaboration with relevant public agencies, host nations, and stakeholders, including consideration of:

1. Long-term land use and urban design objectives for the precinct;
 2. Cumulative skyline, shadow, and protected public view impacts;
 3. Heritage conservation and contextual integration;
 4. Public realm, waterfront access, and pedestrian experience improvements;
 5. Integration of regional transportation infrastructure and future transit capacity needs;
 6. Climate resilience and sea level rise considerations;
 7. Coordination with Port, rail, cruise, and regional transportation authorities;
- and

8. Mechanisms to ensure future development proposals are evaluated within an overall civic framework for the harbour edge and Waterfront Station area.

FURTHER THAT staff report back on opportunities for interim policy measures or planning principles to guide major development proposals within the precinct pending completion of such work.

* * * * *