



SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2026

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Friday, August 14, 2026, at 8:28 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, for the purpose of considering the motion entitled "Public Safety Plebiscite." This Special Council meeting was convened in person and via electronic means as authorized by Part 14 of the *Procedure By-law*.

PRESENT:

- Mayor Ken Sim
- Acting Mayor Lenny Zhou
- Councillor Rebecca Bligh*
- Councillor Lisa Dominato
- Councillor Pete Fry*
- Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung
- Councillor Mike Klassen
- Councillor Lucy Maloney
- Councillor Peter Meiszner
- Councillor Brian Montague
- Councillor Sean Orr*

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

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Andrew Aguilar, Deputy City Clerk
David Yim, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

The Mayor acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh People. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

The Mayor also recognized the immense contributions of the City of Vancouver's team members who work hard every day to help make our city an incredible place to live, work, and play.

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Due to technical difficulties, the meeting recessed at 8:31 am and reconvened in the Cascadia Room at 9:15 am.

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1. Public Safety Plebiscite

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At the beginning of the item, Mayor Sim relinquished the Chair to Acting Mayor Zhou to introduce the motion and to participate in debate and discussion. Mayor Sim resumed the Chair after the vote on the item.

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MOVED by Mayor Sim
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT Council enact a By-law in the form set out in Appendix A of the motion entitled "Public Safety Plebiscite," containing the questions to be submitted for the opinion of the electors in the municipal election to be held in October 2026.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Maloney
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

- A. THAT Council direct staff to develop, and report back by Q1 2027, on a crisis mitigation program modelled on Vancouver's successful 2021-2022 Better Together Collective Action Pilot program, funded and coordinated by the City, delivering:
 - i. Neighborhood Collective Action Tables ('Tables'), Agency-Led and Resident-Led;
 - ii. A Peer Stewardship Program;
 - iii. Education and Training;
 - iv. Outreach and Coordination; and
 - v. Neighborhood Cleanliness, Graffiti & Garbage Clean Up.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to report back on how to conduct a Crisis Response System Review by Q1 2027, that addresses crisis response roles and responsibilities of relevant organizations including but not limited to:
 - i. Vancouver Coastal Health;
 - ii. CMHA BC;
 - iii. E-Comm;
 - iv. the Vancouver Police Department and Vancouver Police Board;
 - v. the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations;
 - vi. urban Indigenous organizations;
 - vii. crisis-line and 988 providers;
 - viii. peer-led and community organizations; and
 - ix. people with lived and living experience.

FURTHER THAT staff study and report back during the above Crisis Response System Review on how to design and roll out a Crisis Response, Community Led (CRCL) expansion program.

- C. THAT Council direct staff to study and report back by Q1 2027 on how to fund and implement an expanded commitment to adopt the Restorative City Framework.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to study and report back on how to adopt a Housing First policy that treats supportive housing as a fundamental pillar of community safety and restorative justice.

FURTHER THAT in developing this program, staff consult relevant organizations including, but not limited to:

- i. Vancouver BIAs;
- ii. Vancouver Coastal Health;
- iii. Providence Healthcare;
- iv. Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society;
- v. The Indigenous Crisis Response Team;
- vi. The Coordinated Community Response Network;
- vii. Hogan's Alley Society; and
- viii. The Vancouver Police Department.

LOST (Vote No. 11939)

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

(Councillors Bligh, Fry and Orr abstained from the vote)

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At 9:58 am, Councillor Kirby-Yung rose on a point of order under Section 8.7 of the Procedure By-law, noting that Councillor Bligh's comment was not related to the matter under discussion. After consulting with staff, the Chair ruled on the point of order and found it not in order but noted the rule of conduct set out in Section 6.1(b) of the Procedure By-law.

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The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 11940) with Councillor Maloney opposed and Councillors Bligh, Fry and Orr absent for the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Klassen

SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Bligh, Fry and Orr absent for the vote)

The Special Council adjourned at 10:25 am.

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