



Corporation of the City of NEW WESTMINSTER

A vibrant, compassionate, resilient city where everyone can thrive.

REGULAR COUNCIL FOR WORKSHOP

MINUTES

Monday, May 27, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

**Meeting held electronically and in Council Chamber
City Hall**

PRESENT: Mayor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Ruby Campbell
Councillor Daniel Fontaine
Councillor Tasha Henderson* (joined at 3:03 p.m.)
Councillor Paul Minhas
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa

Hanieh Berg, Corporate Officer

ABSENT: Councillor Jaimie McEvoy

*Attendance by electronic means

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Johnstone called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. He acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. He recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

Cllr. Henderson joined the meeting (3:03 p.m.).

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOVED and SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council receive all On Table material as presented; and
2. **THAT** Council adopt the May 27, 2024 Workshop agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 New Provincial Housing Legislation Implementation

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Lynn Roxburgh, Manager of Housing, detailed the various aspects of Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing legislation (Bill 44) and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) areas legislation (Bill 47) and the City's proposed approach to implement the Province's requirements.

Discussion ensued and the following was noted:

- the City may be most impacted by Bill 47 given the number of SkyTrain stations within the city's footprint;
- cost implications related to the implementation of the legislation will be explored further as part of analysis of financing growth, i.e., funding the infrastructure, services, and amenities needed;
- infrastructure planning, including electrical, will need to be updated to consider new growth around TOD areas;
- existing heritage designations and heritage revitalization agreements are not superseded by TOD areas; the City may utilize these tools to protect assets, provided the mandated heights and densities are also accommodated;
- the Queen's Park Heritage Conservation Area is not affected by the TOD designation;
- staff do not anticipate an influx of applications once the legislation is implemented, however the application process will be streamlined and tools made available for the public through the City's website;
- rezoning applications will remain subject to Council approval;
- the City can no longer require off-street residential parking minimums; however, accessible, commercial, and bike parking spaces remain within the City's purview;
- inclusionary zoning remains in place, however it may not be viable given the costs of construction; the City's approach to inclusionary housing needs to be re-examined; and
- the legislation seeks to create a more consistent charge structure whereby Development Cost Charges may include core services like solid waste and fire protection services; an Amenity Cost Charge is intended to fund community amenities like libraries or daycares.

As a result of the discussion, staff was requested to update Council regarding the impact of Bill 47 on the City in comparison to its impact in other cities; staff was also requested to provide Council with information regarding potential tax implications to properties that fall within the TOD areas.

MOVED and SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council forward Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Transit Oriented Area and Small Scale Multi Unit Housing Amendments) No. 8453, 2024 and Transit Oriented Area Designation Bylaw No. 8460, 2024 to the June 10, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council for consideration of First, Second and Third Readings; and
2. **THAT** notice be given in accordance with the Local Government Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.2 Infill Housing and Townhouse Acceleration Work Plans

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, L. Roxburgh provided background information related to the Infill Housing and Townhouse Acceleration Work Plan and highlighted proposed housing initiatives: Infill Housing Acceleration and Townhouse Acceleration. L. Roxburgh then spoke to key tasks and the proposed timeline for these initiatives, noting that staff anticipate implementation in late 2025.

MOVED and SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council direct staff to proceed with the work plan for the Infill Housing Acceleration program as outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** Council direct staff to proceed with the work plan for the Townhouse Acceleration program as outlined in this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.3 Community Engagement Approach for New City Logo

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Ashleigh Young, Manager of Communications, provided background information and spoke to the proposed community engagement process for a new logo for the City. In reply to queries from Council, A. Young advised that (i) Ion Brand Design

has been retained for graphic design, (ii) the City of New Westminster will retain its name, (iii) the consultant has been advised that the City is seeking to move away from colonial elements, (iv) the project is estimated to cost approximately \$45,000, which includes costs for a designer and direct expenses for engagement activities, and (v) staff costs are not included in the project costs as the project is within the Community Services Department's work plan.

MOVED and SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council provide feedback on the proposed engagement objectives and approach to inform development of a new corporate logo;
2. **THAT** Council endorse the engagement objectives and approach; and
3. **THAT** Council direct staff to proceed with launching the community engagement process.

The question on the motion was not called as the following amendments were introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT "to start in November 2026" be added to part 3 of the main motion following the word "process."

DEFEATED

Opposed by Mayor Johnstone and Councillors Campbell, Henderson and Nakagawa

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following be added as Part 4 to the main motion, "THAT Council direct staff to undertake an informal online vote on at least three logo options for consideration with the results forwarded to Council for information."

DEFEATED

Opposed by Mayor Johnstone and Councillors Campbell, Henderson and Nakagawa

The question on the main motion was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Councillors Fontaine and Minhas opposed.

4. END OF THE MEETING

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adjourn the May 27, 2024 Workshop (4:30 p.m.).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting for Workshop of the Council of the City of New Westminster held on May 27, 2024.

Patrick Johnstone

MAYOR

Hanieh Berg

CORPORATE OFFICER