



Regular Council for Workshop

**Monday, April 14, 2025
3:00 p.m.**

**Council Chamber, Second Floor
New Westminster City Hall, 511 Royal Avenue**

Present: Councillor Tasha Henderson, Chair
Mayor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Ruby Campbell
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy* (joined at 3:16 p.m.)
Councillor Paul Minhas
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa*

Absent: Councillor Daniel Fontaine

**Attendance by electronic means*

1. CALL TO ORDER IN OPEN SESSION

Chair Henderson called the meeting to order at 3:10 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.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the April 14, 2025 Regular Council for Workshop meeting be approved.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes from the Regular Council for Workshop meeting held on March 17, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

4.1 Update on Massey Theatre Renovation Construction Schedule and Transitional Funding

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Lisa Leblanc, Director, Engineering, provided background information and spoke to the approved extended schedule, for Phase 3 of the Massey Theatre renovation project and the associated additional costs. It was noted that the extended schedule would see two separate three-month closures, which reduces the impact to the Theatre operations; however, it will extend the timeline for completion as well as introduce additional cost risk.

Cllr. McEvoy joined the meeting by videoconference (3:16 p.m.).

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the report titled “Update on Massey Theatre Renovation: Construction Schedule & Transitional Funding” dated April 17, 2025, be received for information.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion ensued and Council commented on the need to inform residents and patrons of the renovation and its timeline as well as ways other Theatre user groups can be supported during the closures.

In reply to a query from Council, L. Leblanc advised that staff are examining funding opportunities for senior government funding including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Infrastructure Canada, and BC Hydro’s CleanBC Program.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

4.1 Crises Response Pilot Project – Independent Evaluation

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Anne Tseng, Douglas College, presented on the Independent Evaluation Data Plan for the Crises Response Pilot Project and the following information was highlighted:

- there are five evaluation goals: (i) Assess the design of the Project to meet intended outcomes, (ii) Measure progress and outcomes, (iii) Identify unmet needs, gaps, and constraints that limit the ability of the Project to address the crises, (iv) Assess the extent to which the Project is reaching the intended populations, and (v) Examine the Project as a means for effective advocacy and policy development;
- the evaluation will utilize a mixed-methods approach whereby both qualitative and quantitative data will be examined;
- data will be collected by the City as well as through other data collection instruments, such as a survey, outreach polls, interviews; and
- the evaluation strategy accounts for a diverse range of perspectives, incorporates marginalized voices, supports informed decision making, recognizes the interrelated crises as social problems, and establishes a baseline for future evaluations.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report titled “Crises Response Pilot Project – Independent Evaluations” from the Chief Administrative Officer dated April 14, 2025, be received for information.

CARRIED

5. REPORT FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

5.1 Proposed Advocacy to Extend Provincial Timeline for the use of New Westminster's Interim Density Bonus Policy

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT a letter be sent by the Mayor's Office, on behalf of Council to the provincial Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, requesting that the new Density Benefit Regulations be enacted no earlier than December 30, 2025 and that the City be permitted to continue to apply the City's current Interim Density Bonus Policy to any development applications in stream on the date of enactment, for a further two years following enactment, to enable collection of funds for infrastructure and amenities required to serve community growth.

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn (4:00 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Council Workshop meeting of Council of the City of New Westminster held on April 14, 2025.

Councillor Tasha Henderson
CHAIR

Hanieh Berg
CORPORATE OFFICER