

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

**1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young.

**Staff Present:** J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; P. Bruce – Fire Chief; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities; C. Whipp – Manager of Facilities; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; F. Work – Director of Engineering & Public Works; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; C. Coates – City Clerk; J. Schmidt – Manager of Legislative Services; C. Mycroft – Assistant to City Manager; A. Ferguson – Recording Secretary.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that the Agenda of the October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC785

Mayor Helps took a moment to introduce the new City Clerk, Chris Coates and the new Director of Engineering & Public Works, Fraser Work.

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**3.1. Minutes from the Meeting held on October 8, 2015.**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Minutes of the Meeting held October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be adopted.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Young, that the minutes be corrected as follows:

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For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, **and** Thornton-Joe ~~and Young~~

Against: Councillor Young

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC786

On the main motion as amended:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC787

#### 4. DECISION REQUESTS

##### 4.1 Economic Action Plan – Mayor’s Task Force on Economic Development & Prosperity

Committee received a motion dated October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, from Mayor Helps and Councillor Lucas with recommendations regarding the Economic Action Plan.

- Action:** It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee recommends that Council:
1. Adopt *Making Victoria: Unleashing Potential* as Victoria's Economic Action Plan, direct staff to develop an implementation plan, and begin implementing the operational items as soon as practicable.
  2. Direct staff to report on the operations of the Business Hub as part of the Quarterly Report to Council.
  3. Direct staff to report to Council annually as outlined in the Business Hub section of the Action Plan.

Mayor Helps took a moment to recognize the members of the task force in attendance.

Committee discussed:

- Using existing resources to help deliver the comprehensive action plan aimed at economic growth, wellbeing and prosperity.
- The resources the hub can interact with, such as the Chamber of Commerce, without being a duplicate resource.
- The issues of homelessness, unemployed youth and university graduates leaving the City.
- The issues of parking and homelessness and how they affect the vitality of downtown businesses.
- The positive affect the plan will have on tourism.
- Adding information on culture and the City’s heritage significance on Page 20, point 6 of the plan.
- Finding opportunities to celebrate the City’s built heritage and focusing on the City’s broad assets such as economics, recreation and arts and culture.

- Mayor Helps advised that changes will be made to the document to ensure there is recognition of the City's built heritage.
- The positive effect a livable minimum wage would have on the local economy.
- The preference for further reflection on the City's indigenous history.
- The need for reducing "unnecessary red tape" but adhering to the required rules and regulations.
- The Regional Summit taking place on November 7<sup>th</sup> on how to create a prospering regional economy.
- The language in the Action Plan mirroring that of the Strategic Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC788

#### 4.2 Bicycle Network & Priorities Plan

Committee received a report dated October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; Sustainable Planning & Community Development; Parks, Recreation & Facilities; Engineering & Public Works; Interdisciplinary Projects, which provided Council with information on the Bicycle Network & Priority Corridor Identification Project.

Urban Systems and the Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning presented an overview of the proposal.

Committee discussed:

- The public engagement process and strategies for how to get non-cyclists involved.
- Potential accessibility impacts with the removal of parking spaces to accommodate the bicycle network.
- Alternative routes, reducing gaps in the corridors and assurance of safety measures for all road users.

*Councillor Coleman left meeting at 10:19 a.m. to attend a conference call.*

- Working closely with the Burnside Transportation Study to produce a connected bicycle network.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council receive this report for information and direct staff and consultants to proceed with public engagement and detailed conceptual design of priority corridors.

Committee discussed:

- The desire to implement a complete bicycle network throughout all the City's neighborhoods under this current project.
- Having staff identify the bicycle network that can be completed under the current funding and advise on the funding that would be required to create a complete bicycle network.
- Further routes that could be incorporated and routes that could be reconfigured for better connectivity.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC789

*Committee recessed at 10:35 a.m. and returned at 10:40 a.m.*

### **4.3 Facilities Condition Assessment Report**

Committee received a report dated October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from Parks, Recreation and Facilities which provided Council with information on the results of the Facility Condition Assessment.

Morrison Hershfield and the Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities provided Committee with a presentation on the assessment.

Committee discussed:

- Public's concern for the potential demolition of City-owned buildings due to neglect, such as the Checkers Pavilion.
- Concerns as to why the Checkers Pavilion was not included in the assessment.
  - The building is boarded up and was deemed not safe to enter for the assessment, but staff will further review this.
- Concerns about the estimated costs for updates to the fairly new police headquarters.
- Integrating this assessment with the Strategic Real Estate Function.
- Accessibility review for all the facilities, including addressing accessibility issues with the Crystal Pool washrooms.
- Interdisciplinary team working on improvements to Crystal Pool.
- The assessment and keeping up with maintenance on the City's buildings will limit surprises with future repair cost.
- Incorporating gender neutral washroom facilities at City buildings.
- Having a strategic review of the City's buildings to identify potential relocation of departments to ensure all buildings are being used to their full potential and to deliver Strategic Plan goals such as affordable housing.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council receive this report for information.

Committee discussed:

- That informed budget decisions can be made after this detailed assessment.
- Ensuring all City buildings are accessible.
- Including an assessment on the Checkers Pavilion.
- Inclusion of handrails at the arena for those with mobility challenges.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC790

### **4.4 Summary of North Park Co-Design Community Workshop**

Committee received a report dated October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from Engineering and Public Works and Citizen Engagement and Strategic Planning which provided Council with recommendations regarding improvements to the Cook Street corridor.

The Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services provided the Committee with a presentation on the recommendations for improvements to the Cook Street corridor.

Committee discussed:

- The idea, brought up by some of the North Park residents, to close North Park Street at Cook Street to vehicle traffic to create a plaza.

- Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends:
1. That Council endorse the neighbourhood's recommendation that the paving along Cook Street from Pandora Avenue to Caledonia Avenue be deferred pending approval of a new cycling network in 2016.
  2. That Council direct staff to provide support for a visioning exercise that may be used to inform the community's Local Area Plan.

Committee discussed:

- Deferring the road work until further decisions on improvements can be made.
- Collaboration with the neighborhood to incorporate their comments into the rebuilding of the village center.
- Reducing the speed limit in the village center to 40km.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the motion be amended

That Committee recommends:

1. That Council endorse the neighbourhood's recommendation that the paving along Cook Street from Pandora Avenue to Caledonia Avenue be deferred pending approval of a new cycling network in 2016.
2. That Council direct staff to provide support for a visioning exercise that may be used to inform the community's Local Area Plan.
3. **To designate a 40km zone from Pandora Avenue to Caledonia Avenue.**

**Amendment to amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, that the amendment be amended:

That Committee recommends:

1. That Council endorse the neighbourhood's recommendation that the paving along Cook Street from Pandora Avenue to Caledonia Avenue be deferred pending approval of a new cycling network in 2016.
2. That Council direct staff to provide support for a visioning exercise that may be used to inform the community's Local Area Plan.
3. **To designate a 40km zone from Pandora Avenue to the northern end of the existing school zone Caledonia Avenue.**

Committee discussed:

- Implementing the zone may undermine the community's request for Council to defer any decisions until the neighbourhood has had the opportunity to discuss improvements on a larger scale.

- Discussing the proposed speed zone with the community association prior to finalizing their motion at Council next week.

The motion failed due to no seconder.

**Amendment to amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the amendment be amended:

That Committee recommends:

1. That Council endorse the neighbourhood's recommendation that the paving along Cook Street from Pandora Avenue to Caledonia Avenue be deferred pending approval of a new cycling network in 2016.
2. That Council direct staff to provide support for a visioning exercise that may be used to inform the community's Local Area Plan.
3. To designate a 40km zone from Pandora Avenue to Caledonia Avenue, **subject to confirmation from the North Park Neighbourhood Association.**

On the amendment to the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC791

On the amendment:  
CARRIED 15/GPC792

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Isitt Loveday, Lucas, Madoff and Thornton-Joe

Against: Councillor Young

On the main motion as amended:  
CARRIED 15/GPC793

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Isitt Loveday, Lucas, Madoff and Thornton-Joe

Against: Councillor Young

**4.5 Draft 2016 Financial Plan Introduction**

Committee received a report dated October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015, from Finance providing information and recommendations on the draft 2016 Financial Plan.

Susanne Thompson, Director of Finance and Jason Johnson, City Manager provided the Committee with a presentation on the 2016 draft Financial Plan.

*Councillor Coleman returned to the meeting at 11:54 p.m.*

Committee discussed:

- The potential use of the capital budget contribution and the permitted uses of various allocated budget funds.
- Desire to keep budget increases to inflation plus 1%.
- The neighbourhood per resident grant and inflation increase for community associations.

*Councillor Thornton-Joe left the meeting at 12:03 p.m. to attend a meeting with the CRD Housing Trust Fund Committee.*

*Councillor Isitt left the meeting at 12:03 p.m. and returned at 12:04 p.m.*

- Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee recommends that Council:
1. Receive this report for information and consideration on November 26, 2015.
  2. Direct staff to bring forward bylaws outlining solid waste and water utility user fee increases to the November 26 Council meeting for consideration of first, second and third readings.

Committee discussed:

- Appreciation for the well laid out and easy to understand summary that was provided.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC794

*Committee recessed at 12:08 p.m. and returned at 12:12 p.m.*

#### **4.6 Review of Bylaw Enforcement Services**

Committee received a report dated October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015, from the Deputy City Manager providing information on the findings of an external audit of the Bylaw and Licensing Services Division.

The Deputy City Manager provided the Committee with some background on the proposed service review process.

- Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to bring forward a policy for service reviews, and identify two areas per year to audit.

Committee discussed:

- Appreciation for the initiative.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC794

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 Conference Attendance Requests**

Committee received requests dated October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from Mayor Helps and Councillors Lucas to attend a tourism conference in Ottawa.

- Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee recommends that Council authorizes the attendance and associated costs for Mayor Helps to the Tourism Industry Association of Canada and Victoria Tourism Mission to be held in Ottawa, Ontario, November 29 to December 2, 2015.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC795

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Mayor Helps, that Committee recommends that Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Margaret Lucas to the Tourism Industry Association of Canada Annual Tourism Industry Congress and Victoria Tourism Mission in Ottawa, Ontario, November 29<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Committee discussed:

- The opportunity to build relationships with other levels of government while attending the conference.
- Discussing issues such as affordable housing, the Belleville Terminal and marijuana legalization.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC796

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that the Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, be adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC797

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Mayor Helps, Chair