

**MINUTES OF THE
GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:02 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; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; J. Schmidt – Manager of Legislative Services; C. Mycroft – Assistant to City Manager; J. Appleby and C. Havelka – Recording Secretaries.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Action: It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the Agenda of the October 8, 2015, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC762

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. Minutes from the Meeting held on September 17, 2015.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the Minutes of the Meeting held September 17th, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC763

4. DECISION REQUESTS

4.1 Skateboarding Regulations

Committee received a report dated September 30th, 2015 from Engineering & Public Works and Citizen Engagement and Strategic Planning with recommendations regarding skateboarding regulations in response to Council

direction to amend the Streets & Traffic Bylaw to permit the use of skateboards on City Roadways.

Committee discussed:

- Details of the lighting and safety requirements and if there is data to support that helmets prevent serious injuries.
 - The requirement for lighting and reflectors is consistent with cyclists and could be either worn or affixed to a skateboard. There is no daytime requirement for either. There is data that suggests that helmet use may not improve overall safety.
- How fines would be collected and by what method the amounts were determined.
- If the bylaw pertains to private space and if there are fines attached to those areas and should there be.
- Private property use would be covered under the particular bylaw that regulates the area, such as the Parks Regulation Bylaw.
- The bylaw amendment would eliminate the ability of law enforcement to seize skateboards from those who violate the bylaw.
- If the bylaw could be applied to a zone just in the downtown and not City wide.

Action: It was moved by Councilor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council refer the matter back to staff for further work.

Committee discussed:

- Concerns that there could be abuse of the system which would result in individuals feeling they are being harassed or discriminated against.

Amendment: It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the motion be amended as follows:

That Council refer the matter back to staff for further work **with particular attention to the following:**

1. **Fines applying only to downtown.**
2. **Amount of fines.**
3. **Requirement for lights and reflectors.**
4. **The age of skateboarders to whom the regulations would apply.**

Committee discussed:

- There has been an increase in complaints regarding skateboarding on sidewalks in the downtown.
- If the City creates a bylaw then there should be consequences if the bylaw is violated.
- The hope that once the bicycle infrastructure is in place, the need to skateboard on sidewalks will be eliminated.
- A communications strategy will be key.

Amendment to amendment:

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Madoff that the amendment be amended:

That Council refer the matter back to staff for further work **with particular attention to the following:**

1. **Fines applying only to downtown.**
2. **Amount of fines when not in the downtown.**
3. **Requirement for lights and reflectors.**
4. **The age of skateboarders to whom the regulations would apply.**

Committee discussed:

- It is inappropriate to prevent everyone from skateboarding downtown. There should be a distinction between areas that are heavily used by pedestrians, such as downtown, and areas that are not.

On the amendment to the amendment:

CARRIED 15/GPC764

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

Against: Councillor Isitt

On the amendment:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC765

On the main motion as amended:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC766

4.2 Parking Dispute Adjudication

Committee received a report dated September 24th, 2015 from C. Paine, Manager of Revenue, seeking Council approval to request that the Province amend their legislation to enable the City to adopt a parking dispute adjudication program.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Request that the Province of British Columbia amend the Bylaw Notice Enforcement Regulation (B.C. reg.175 (2004) to apply the *Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act* to the City of Victoria.
2. Direct staff to prepare a draft bylaw for parking dispute adjudication and report back on further details of parking dispute adjudication implementation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC767

4.3 Bicycle Network & Priorities Corridors Project Update

Committee received a report dated September 29th, 2015 from Citizen Engagement and Strategic Planning which provided Council with an update on the timeline and direction of the Bicycle Network & Priorities Plan Project.

Committee discussed the need to provide safe accessibility for all, including pedestrians and those with limited mobility issues.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council receive the Bicycle Network & Priorities Corridors Project Update report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC7668

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Motion – Workplace Health and Safety through Asbestos Control

Committee received a motion dated October 2nd, 2015 from Councillors Isitt and Loveday requesting that the Mayor write to the Province of BC and the Federal Government regarding the safety and ban of asbestos products and refer a motion regarding asbestos to the next quarterly Strategic Priorities review.

Committee discussed:

- The effect that asbestos has on workers.
- The need to advocate and consider taking action ourselves.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Request that the Mayor write to the Prime Minister of Canada endorsing the establishment of National Registries of public buildings and public maritime vessels containing asbestos products and requesting a federal ban on the importation of asbestos and building products containing asbestos into Canada;
2. Request that the Mayor write to the Premier of British Columbia, the Minister Responsible for Housing and the Minister of Advanced Education,
 - a. requesting cooperation with the Federal and Municipal governments in the establishment of National Registries of public buildings and public maritime vessels containing asbestos and building products containing asbestos;
 - b. proposing more rigorous training in asbestos safety, mitigation and removal within the provincial trades training, apprenticeship and accreditation system; and
 - c. recommending improvements to the BC Building Code to increase protections for workers from the health and safety risks of asbestos;
3. Refers the following motion for consideration during the next quarterly Strategic Priorities review:

THAT Council direct staff to report on options for increasing protections for workers in the building trades through the prohibition of the use of asbestos and building products containing asbestos in the construction activities authorized by the building permit in the City of Victoria;

AND THAT this report include advice from the Fire Chief on the advisability of prohibiting the use of asbestos and building products containing asbestos in construction activities in the City of Victoria;

AND THAT this report include advice on the resource implications and advisability of including municipal buildings, facilities and maritime vessels in the National Registries of public buildings and public maritime vessels containing asbestos and building products containing asbestos.

Committee agreed to separate the motion:

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Request that the Mayor write to the Prime Minister of Canada endorsing the establishment of National Registries of public buildings and public maritime vessels containing asbestos products and requesting a federal ban on the importation of asbestos and building products containing asbestos into Canada;
2. Request that the Mayor write to the Premier of British Columbia, the Minister Responsible for Housing and the Minister of Advanced Education,
 - a. requesting cooperation with the Federal and Municipal governments in the establishment of National Registries of public buildings and public maritime vessels containing asbestos and building products containing asbestos;
 - b. proposing more rigorous training in asbestos safety, mitigation and removal within the provincial trades training, apprenticeship and accreditation system; and
 - c. recommending improvements to the BC Building Code to increase protections for workers from the health and safety risks of asbestos;

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC769

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council:

3. Refers the following motion for consideration during the next quarterly Strategic Priorities review:

THAT Council direct staff to report on options for increasing protections for workers in the building trades through the prohibition of the use of asbestos and building products containing asbestos in the construction activities authorized by the building permit in the City of Victoria;

AND THAT this report include advice from the Fire Chief on the advisability of prohibiting the use of asbestos and building products containing asbestos in construction activities in the City of Victoria;

AND THAT this report include advice on the resource implications and advisability of including municipal buildings, facilities and maritime vessels in the National Registries of public buildings and public maritime vessels containing asbestos and building products containing asbestos.

CARRIED 15/GPC770

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

Against: Councillor Young

Committee recessed at 10:08 a.m.

Committee reconvened at 10:14 a.m.

5.2 Councillors Overview of Current Issues

Committee provided a roundtable on current issues:

Councillor Thornton-Joe and Councillor Alto outlined for Committee information learned and shared at the Canadian Capitals Cities Organization (CCCO) conference they attended in August.

Councillor Isitt provided information on community issues, including:

- The status of the CRD project to provide regional sewage treatment.
- Island Corridor Foundation work to upgrade the rail line.
- The Greater Victoria Harbour Authority.
- Discussions with the Parks & Recreation Foundation.
- The First Nations conference in Port Hardy and First Nation languages.

Councillor Loveday provided information on community issues, including:

- His role as liaison to the Youth Council; details regarding the Youth Poet Laureate.
- The meetings of the Food Security group and the Accessibility Working Group.
- The First Nations partnership workshop in Nanaimo.

Councillor Young provided information on community issues including:

- Items of concern in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood.
- Long term planning for the Royal Oak Cemetery Board, including its governance structure.

Councillor Coleman provided information on community issues, including:

- Items of concern in the Fairfield / Gonzales neighbourhood.
- Information and meeting reports from the FCM conference.
- Information from the Union of British Columbia Convention (UBCM), including medical marijuana dispensaries.
- A protocol visit of a New Zealand male choir.

Councillor Lucas provided information on community issues, including:

- The trade mission to San Francisco; similar issues that impact tourism and AirBnB regulations.
- New provincial regulations affecting tourism and the hotel tax.
- Information regarding the International Downtown Association conference.
- James Bay neighbourhood issues; the revitalization of the Belleville Terminal.

Councillor Madoff provided information on community issues including:

- The Greater Victoria Public Library board and the budget that will come to Council.

- The Civic Heritage Trust and Victoria Heritage Foundation.
- The CRD Arts Committee and the Art in Public Places.
- Silver Threads and the CNIB.

Mayor Helps provided information on community issues including:

- The status of the community drop in hosted in her office.
- Meetings of the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board and integrating police services.
- The Task Force on Economic Development and Prosperity bringing recommendations to GPC October 22.
- The trade mission to San Francisco and an invitation for a “reverse mission” in Victoria in January 2016.

Councillors discussed the structure of the Overview of Current Issues and any possible changes, ideas or improvements.

5.3 Motion - Fire Services Mutual Aid Agreement Renewal

Committee received a motion dated September 20th, 2015 from Mayor Helps, proposing that a Project Charter and Terms of Reference be developed in collaboration with Victoria, Saanich, Esquimalt and Oak Bay for a new core Fire Services Agreement.

Action: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to work collaboratively with the signatories to the 1980 Fire Mutual Aid Agreement to develop a Project Charter and Terms of Reference for the four communities and to develop a new core Fire Services Agreement between the District of Saanich, The Township of Esquimalt, The City of Victoria and the District of Oak Bay in order to continue to work collaboratively with all fire services to explore and develop projects and agreements that maintain cost control or improve service delivery.

Committee discussed:

- Equity in terms of ensuring the City doesn't continue to provide more services than other municipalities.
- The suggestion that fire services be integrated throughout the region for improved service delivery.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC771

5.4 Motion - Municipal Response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

Committee received a motion dated October 8th, 2015 from Councillors Alto and Thornton-Joe recommending that the City Manager consider the 'calls to action' in the Truth and Reconciliation report and report back to Council

Action: It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that Committee recommends that Council approve the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council ask the City Manager to consider the ‘calls to action’ in the Truth and Reconciliation final report, and report back to Council, before December 17th, 2015, with recommendations on how to move forward on the actions recommended by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that are within the City’s jurisdiction to act.

Committee discussed:

- Concerns that the motion does not provide clear direction to staff.
- Noting work the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) may be doing in response to the report; using tools developed by the FCM and other municipalities to inform the City’s response.
- Working on this national issue and reaching out to local First Nations to move forward with these actions.

CARRIED 15/GPC772

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

Against: Councillor Young

Action: It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Governance & Priorities Committee convene a Closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 12(6) of the *Council Bylaw* for the reason that the following agenda item deals with matters specified in Sections 12(3) and/or (4) of the Council Bylaw, namely:

- Section 12(3)(e) The acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure might reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the City.
- Section 12(4)(b) The consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the City and a Provincial government or the Federal Government or both, or between a Provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC773

6. CLOSED MEETING AT 11:35 A.M.

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

Absent for a Portion of the Meeting: Councillors Alto, Isitt and Loveday

Staff Present: J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; J. Schmidt – Manager, Legislative Services; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; T.

Zworski – City Solicitor; C. Mycroft –
Executive Assistant to the City Manager; C.
Havelka – Recording Secretary.

7. APPROVAL OF CLOSED AGENDA

Action: It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Closed Agenda of the October 8, 2015, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC774

8. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

8.1 Minutes from the Closed Meeting held September 17, 2015

Action: It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Minutes from the Closed Meeting held September 17, 2015 be adopted.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC775

Councillors Alto and Loveday joined the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

9. DECISION REQUESTS

9.1 Two Easements – View Street Parkade

Committee received a report dated September 17, 2015 regarding two easements at View Street Parkade.

Councillor Isitt joined the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

The discussion and motion were recorded and kept confidential.

9.2 Intergovernmental Relations

Committee discussed an intergovernmental relations matter.

The discussion and motion were recorded and kept confidential.

All staff, except the City Manager and Deputy City Manager, were excused from the meeting at 12:22 p.m.

10. PERSONNEL

Staff provided Committee with an update on personnel issues.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Action: It was moved by Councillor Lucas, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of October 8, 2015, be adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC784

Mayor Helps, Chair