

Council Member Motion For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 3, 2018

To: Committee of the Whole Date: June 3, 2018

From: Councillor Thornton-Joe & Mayor Helps

Subject: Letter from BCSPCA regarding Horse Drawn Carriages

BACKGROUND

On May 28th, 2018, the City received a letter from the BC SPCA in regards to an incident that occurred on May 4th at Ogden Point between two trolley horses owned by Victoria Carriage Tours.

The BCSPCA conducted an investigation on the incident and provided in its correspondence to the City a quote from a veterinarian and equine specialist and a recommendation that:

The BC SPCA recommends that Council:

- 1. Prohibit the operation of horse-drawn vehicles on Victoria's streets
- 2. Limit horse-drawn vehicles to those which only require one horse to operate

In addition to proposed location and size restrictions, the BC SPCA recommends the following operational requirements to be introduced to the industry:

- Establish standard operating procedures (SOPs) and emergency management plans (EMPs) for urgent situation. To be licensed, companies operating carriage tours should have SOPs and EMPs in place, established with review by an equine veterinarian. The BC SPCA would be willing to play a role in reviewing these SOPs and EMPs.
- 2. Create a report form, required by any licensed operator to be completed following any incident occurring during working hours in the City of Victoria. The form should include reporting requirement for: incident description, location, time, duration and any witness details.
- 3. Require each operator to have an emergency kit for each vehicle containing an extra halter, 4 traffic cones and first aid kits for both people and horses.

MOTION

That council receive this correspondence and request that staff report back on any advice Council would need to receive to consider the recommendation provided by the BC SPCA.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Thornton-Joe

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Mayor Helps