



## **Council Report**

### **For the Meeting of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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**To:** Council **Date:** April 10, 2020  
**From:** Jo-Ann O'Connor, Deputy Director of Finance  
**Subject:** 2020 Business Improvement Area Bylaw

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Give first, second, and third readings to "Business Improvement Area Rate Bylaw, 2020."
2. Reconsider and adopt Business Improvement Area Rate Bylaw, 2020.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 2019, Council passed bylaw 19-045, Business Improvement Area Bylaw, 2019. This bylaw re-established the Downtown Victoria Business Improvement Area Service (DVBA), authorizing the granting of money to the DVBA and the imposition of taxes for that purpose. The bylaw established the improvement area for the years 2020-2024 inclusive.

Each year, Council must pass a bylaw prescribing the rates to be imposed on properties within the business improvement area. These rates are calculated to recover the amount of the grant authorized in subsection 4(2) of Bylaw 19-045. For 2020, the authorized grant amount is \$1,103,804.

To accommodate the printing and mailing of property tax notices to allow ample time for taxpayers to receive notices and pay before the tax due date, staff are proposing both the introduction and adoption of the tax rate bylaws at the daytime Council meeting on May 7. The provisions of the recent Order from the Provincial Government enabling local governments to adopt bylaws in one meeting as a result of COVID-19 enables this approach. While not to be used without thought, the time sensitivity issues, brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic and the recent changes to the Financial Plan warrant, in staff's view, the introduction and adoption of the Bylaw in the same meeting.

Pursuant to section 5 and 6 of the Business Improvement Area Bylaw, 2019, the DVBA must present its budget annually to Council. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the DVBA's 2020 budget will be presented to Committee of the Whole and subsequently will be received for information at the May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Lockhart  
Manager-Revenue




Jo-Ann O'Connor  
Deputy Director of Finance



Susanne Thompson  
Deputy City Manager/CFO

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

  
Date: April 24, 2020