

Council Member Motion For the Meeting of May 14, 2020

To:May 14, 2020 Committee of the WholeDate:May 8, 2020From:Councillor PottsSubject:COVID Recovery: Housing Security

## Background:

The pandemic has brought new pressures to the existing housing crisis.

The emergency measures that the Provincial Government has taken to date have made a positive interim impact for many renters across BC.

In spite of these efforts, the economic collapse has the potential to significantly deepen the housing crisis. There is concern that once the state of emergency is lifted the most vulnerable renters will find themselves in increasingly precarious positions, particularly due to the threat of eviction or renoviction, and subsequently unable to secure housing that they can afford. This would further compound the existing housing crisis and limit the ability of Victoria to recover.

## **Recommendations:**

- 1. That staff explore opportunities reprioritize, expedite, or amend actions within the Victoria Housing Strategy to address certain growing housing precarity within Victoria.
- 2. That, via council liaisons, staff solicit written recommendations from existing City Task Forces and Committees regarding potential actions to support housing security.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Potts