



Council Member Motion
Council Meeting of November 26, 2020

Date: November 19, 2020

From: Mayor Helps

Subject: Reconsideration of Council Motion on Rezoning Application for 1150 Douglas Street

Background:

At the November 5, 2020 daytime meeting Council passed the following motion with respect to the application for Rezoning to permit a Storefront Cannabis Retailer at 1150 Douglas Street:

That Council decline Rezoning Application No. 00748 for the property location at 1150 Douglas Street.

I have received information from Darlene Hollstein, General Manager of the Bay Centre in relation to this application that, in my view warrants further consideration by Council. Ms. Hollstein informed me during our conversation that securing a rezoning and a 10 year lease with option for renewal for a government-run cannabis dispensary would help in securing tenants for the vacant units adjacent to the proposed dispensary location. These units have been vacant for an extended period, and – with the dispensary proposed – Ms. Hollstein has begun to have inquiries from prospective retail tenants, one of which is a high-quality local retailer.

Given the difficult circumstances facing local businesses and property owners and the potential increase in downtown vacancies as COVID-19 continues, I am asking Council to reconsider its decision on this matter, to put the option back on the table for consideration and consider sending this proposal forward to a public hearing so we can hear from the public on the matter.

Attached as Appendix A is the staff report and attachments that were reviewed by Council at the October 22, 2020 Committee if the Whole Meeting.

Pursuant to the authority granted Mayors in the Community Charter under section 131, to require an issue back for reconsideration within 30 days of the motion passing, I am respectfully exercising that authority for reconsideration of this matter and for Council to vote again with respect to the rezoning application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Helps".

Mayor Lisa Helps

Attachment A – October 22, 2020 Committee of the Whole Report – Rezoning Application
1150 Douglas Street