

G.1.a.d Council Member Motion: Near-term Measures to Encourage More Housing and Affordability

Moved By Councillor Thompson

Seconded By Councillor Loughton

That Council:

1. direct staff to report to Council the implications of, and with recommendations for, amending the House Conversion Regulations in order to encourage more units in a wider range of houses. The report should address and consider innovations, but not be limited to:
 - a. relaxing or removing the restrictions related to year of construction of houses and lot dimensions, the restrictions on changes, the unit maximums, the minimum floor areas, and the storey maximums;
 - b. adding garden suites;
 - c. enhancing communications to the public about the availability of house conversions.
2. direct staff to report to Council the implications of, and with recommendations for, bylaw amendments to permit three suites (suites includes garden suites and tiny homes as appropriate) in the City's current detached dwelling and duplex zones, to permit suites in existing small-lot properties, to make it easier and more affordable to build garden suites and tiny homes and make the approvals process more streamlined, and to allow for additions to buildings in cases where units are secured rental.
3. direct staff to report to council the implications of, and with recommendations for, bylaw amendments and other policies that remove minimum parking requirements for most or all Victoria homes and lots, and to advise on expanding adoption of transit passes for tenants, car share, bike/mobility scooter parking, maximum parking requirements and other transportation demand measures, and providing more accessible parking spaces for multi-unit buildings and streets.
4. direct staff to report to Council the implications of, and with recommendations for, formally endorsing the Calls to Action of the fourteen non-profit housing providers that make up the Vancouver Island Housing Leadership Network (VIHLN) and requests that the Mayor write to the other municipalities in the Region to encourage them to endorse and implement the Calls.
5. direct staff to report to Council the implications of, and with recommendations for advocating, along with other municipalities and the UBCM, to the provincial government to introduce an amendment to the Local Government Act

that would phase out the grandfathering of year-round short-term rentals in existing units and buildings.

6. direct staff to report to Council the implications of, and with recommendations for considering the timing and priority of the above initiatives in light of workload demands, other initiatives currently underway, the goal of accelerating housing availability and affordability, and provide a verbal progress report *before February 28*.

FOR (7): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Dell, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, Councillor Thompson

OPPOSED (2): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Gardiner

CARRIED (7 TO 2)