



Council Member Motion

For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 23rd, 2023

To: Committee of the Whole
From: Councillor Gardiner

Date: November 17th, 2023

Subject: BC Government Bills/Act concerning Drug Use and Sheltering in Public Places

BACKGROUND

BC Government Bills/Acts concerning Land-use:

- During 2023, we have seen Bills/Acts related to land use brought forward by the BC Government; **Bills 34, 35, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47** with regulations to come.
- The impacts on Victoria will be significant given the concentration of shelter and low barrier housing in the City while on our neighbouring municipalities have less low barrier housing.

While the low barrier and sheltering discussions relating to Bill 35 have occurred in an open Council committee meeting, public consultation and opportunity for input at an open forum has not occurred and Bill 45 has not been discussed at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council direct staff to schedule an evening Public Forum at a Council meeting in early 2024 and that at the Public Forum:

- staff present details and their interpretations of Bill 35 and Bill 45 and likely impacts on areas of the City.
- the public be provided the opportunity to speak as per the current Public Hearing rules.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C. Gardiner", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Councillor Gardiner