



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

January 18, 2024, 9:04 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

**The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt People
Meeting will recess for a lunch break between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Alto in the Chair, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, Councillor Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Chief Financial Officer, C. Kingsley - City Clerk, C. Anderson - Deputy City Clerk, S. Johnson - Director of Communications and Engagement, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, T. Soulliere - Deputy City Manager, K. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, D. Newman – Acting Director of Parks, Recreation, & Facilities, W. Doyle – Acting Director of Engineering & Public Works, R. Kenny – Assistant Director of Transportation, A. Johnston – Assistant Director of Development Services, K. Stevenot – Senior Planner – Heritage, S. Perkins - Director of Bylaw Services, A. Heimburger – Legislative Coordinator, S. Maichen - Legislative Coordinator,

A. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Committee acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees First Nation and Esquimalt First Nation communities and recognized the appreciation they have for the Nations for preserving and showcasing the land and territories around them.

B. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

B.1 Council Member Motion: Canadian Capital Cities Organization Winter Conference

Moved By Councillor Caradonna

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That ***Council Member Motion: Canadian Capital Cities Organization Winter Conference*** be added to the agenda as item **G.4** and the remainder of the agenda be reordered accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Coleman

Seconded By Councillor Dell

That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Council requested that item **G.4 - Council Member Motion: Canadian Capital Cities Organization Winter Conference** be added to the consent agenda.

Council requested that item **G.2 - Council Member Motion: Greater Transparency of Closed Meeting Matters** be removed from the consent agenda.

Moved By Councillor Thompson

Seconded By Councillor Coleman

That the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

E.1 557-561 Fisgard Street: Heritage Designation Permit No. 000205 (Downtown)

Committee received a report dated December 19, 2023 from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding a Heritage Designation Application for the property located at 557-561 Fisgard Street in order to designate the exterior of the heritage-registered property, and recommending that it proceed to a Public Hearing.

That Council:

1. approve the designation of the property located at 557-561 Fisgard Street pursuant to Section 611 of the Local Government Act, as a Municipal Heritage Site; and
2. direct staff to prepare the Heritage Designation Bylaw for introductory readings at a subsequent meeting and a Public Hearing date be set.

E.2 565 Fisgard Street: Heritage Designation Permit No. 000207 (Downtown)

Committee received a report dated December 19, 2023 from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding the Heritage Designation Application for the property located at 565 Fisgard Street in order to designate the exterior of the heritage-registered property, and recommending that it proceed to a Public Hearing.

That Council:

1. approve the designation of the property located at 565 Fisgard Street, pursuant to Section 611 of the Local Government Act, as a Municipal Heritage Site; and
2. direct staff to prepare the Heritage Designation Bylaw for introductory readings at a subsequent meeting and a Public Hearing date be set.

G.4 Council Member Motion: Canadian Capital Cities Organization Winter Conference

1. That Council authorizes the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Loughton to attend the Canadian Capital Cities Organization Winter Conference in Ottawa from January 31 to February 2, 2024.
2. That this motion be forwarded to the daytime Council meeting on January 18, 2024, for Council consideration.

The estimated total cost for attending is:

Accommodation (3 nights)	\$ 797.34
Flights	\$ 708.31
Meals	\$ 275
Ground Transportation (incl Taxis to/from airports)	\$ 250
Carbon offset	\$219
TOTAL	\$2,249.65

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. NEW BUSINESS

G.1 Council Member Motion: Accelerating the Network of Greener, Quieter, Low-Traffic Streets

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated January 18, 2024 from Councillor Caradonna and Councillor Dell requesting pilot projects to inform road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces.

*Council noted that Councillor Loughton was to be included as a co-signer for **G.1 - Council Member Motion: Accelerating the Network of Greener, Quieter, Low-Traffic Streets***

Moved By Councillor Dell
Seconded By Councillor Loughton

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones;
4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;
6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Gardiner

Seconded By Councillor Thompson

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot **shared street and** partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones;
4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;
6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved By Councillor Kim

Seconded By Mayor Alto

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot **shared street and or** partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones;

4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;
6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the amendment as amended:

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot **shared street** or partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones;
4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;
6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Gardiner
Seconded By Councillor Dell

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot shared street or partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones; **with the emphasis on village centres;**
4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;

6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Hammond

Seconded By Councillor Gardiner

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot shared street or partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones, with the emphasis on village centres;
4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;
6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies
7. **Identify the impact changed vehicle traffic will have on streets affected by road closures**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

That Council direct staff to identify, accelerate, and pilot shared street or partial or complete road closures to create or enable new boulevards, community spaces, placemaking initiatives, and green spaces; and that staff use some or all of the following criteria to guide and prioritize pilot projects:

1. identify areas in which overall impacts to traffic flow are marginal;
2. enhance safety for children, pedestrians, seniors, and those with mobility challenges, as well as pilots that enhance liveability and community vibrancy;
3. consider ways of activating streets and supporting small businesses via new pedestrianized zones, with the emphasis on village centres;
4. choose projects that connect green spaces bifurcated by roads and/or connect school grounds to green spaces;
5. ensure prioritization for greenspace, pollinator corridors, biodiverse native plants, shade trees, and, where possible, food-producing plants;
6. where possible, implement bioswales, rainwater gardens, and other green stormwater strategies

7. Identify the impact changed vehicle traffic will have on streets affected by road closures.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G.2 Council Member Motion: Greater Transparency of Closed Meeting Matters

Committee received a Council Member Motion Dated January 12, 2024 from Mayor Alto and Councillor Hammond regarding a request to staff to report back on the implications, if any, of adjusting the existing “rise and report” process following a closed City Committee or Council meeting by making changes to the process.

Committee recessed at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10:27 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Hammond

Seconded By Councillor Thompson

- A. That Council direct staff to report back on the implications, if any, of adjusting the existing “rise and report” process following a closed city committee or council meeting by making changes to the process such as:
 1. defaulting to reveal as much information as possible to let the public know issues discussed in closed meetings, as long as they do not breach either the Province’s Community Charter, Victoria’s Code of Conduct Bylaw, or other legal obligations
 2. at the end of each item of every closed meeting, discuss what information will be revealed, with a timeline as soon as possible
 3. where possible, revealing that a meeting took place, even when no other details can be revealed
 4. when an issue is brought into open, revealing that a final vote has been unanimous or not unanimous, and the breakdown of the vote
- B. That Council direct staff to report back on what, if any, existing “rise and report” processes are undertaken, and to what extent and under what circumstances, to publicly report out on matters discussed in a closed city committee or council meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G.3 Council Member Motion: Request for Council to Review the Code of Conduct

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated January 12, 2024 from Councillor Gardiner requesting to direct staff to review public requests for direct access to the Code of Conduct and any submissions to the City received to date and report back

Moved By Councillor Gardiner

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That Council direct staff to review public requests for direct access to the Code of Conduct and any submissions to the City received to date and report back.

Motion to refer:

Moved By Councillor Gardiner

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That Council refer the motion until the mover reports back with a new motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By Councillor Coleman

Seconded By Councillor Thompson

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR