



## Committee of the Whole Report

For the Meeting of May 23, 2019

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** May 16, 2019  
**From:** Fraser Work, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
**Subject:** Bylaw Amendment to Indicate Access to Sightseeing Vehicle Parking Stands

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### RECOMMENDATION

That Council direct staff to:

Bring forward amendments to Schedule D of the City of Victoria *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw No. 03-060* that will allocate Sightseeing Vehicle Parking Stands as follows:

- a. Parking Stand 1 - CVS Cruise Victoria Ltd.;
- b. Parking Stand 2 - Gray Line Sightseeing;
- c. Parking Stand 3 - Rolling Barrel Tours;
- d. Parking Stand 4 - Wilson's Transportation Ltd.;

And assess an additional future amendment to the bylaw should the fifth respondent to the 2018 Request for Expressions of Interest meet the emissions standards.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to gain Council approval for bylaw changes to the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw*, which reflect Council approved changes to the Sightseeing Vehicle Parking Stands management scheme. These recommended allocations reflect adjustments made to the procurement and awarding process for these stands to incentivise improved exhaust emissions.

### BACKGROUND

Through the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw*, the City currently allocates public space at four prime locations within the Inner Harbour area to sightseeing tour companies, as shown in Figure 1. The licensee is permitted to park their vehicles at the stand, load and unload passengers, and advertise and sell tickets for tours on the sidewalk adjacent to the stand. These are currently the only locations in the City where this scope of activity can occur.

As directed by Council in March 2018, staff initiated a modified procurement process for these stands intended to incentivise improved vehicle exhaust emissions performance by establishing a minimum exhaust performance standard, and incentivising zero emissions vehicle use, accessing this prime public tourist zone. In doing so, the City would be showing leadership in advancing

tourism, air quality, Climate Action and fostering a healthy and vibrant downtown. The Committee of the Whole Report *Sightseeing Vehicle Parking Stands – Management Review Update*, of March 14, 2018 is attached as Appendix A.

Council endorsed limiting access to the bus stands for vehicles with at least 1998 emissions performance standards with incentives for increasingly stringent standards each two years through renewals to the *Parking Stand Agreement* (Schedule E of the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw*) plus zero emissions performance standards for the bus stands after 2022. The Request for Expression of Interest identified economic incentives to promote better emissions performance in the monthly rental. Schedule D of the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw* provides the name of the licensee and the monthly rental fee. The value of these parking stands is established by an assessment of the parking revenue that would ordinarily be derived from the curb space if the space were metered.

## ISSUES & ANALYSIS

The City solicited Expressions of Interest in the summer of 2018 from sightseeing vehicle businesses for exclusive use of these stands and received five submissions. The five responses were assessed to ensure compliance with the criteria of meeting 1998 emissions performance or better (EPA emissions standards) as well as other factors including whether the proposed operation will contribute to the downtown tourist economy and vibrancy and character of the Inner Harbour Area. Four of the five responses met the minimum requirements for 1998 emissions performance or better and a summary of these is provided below in Table 1.

Table 1 – Summary of Recommended Tour Operator Submissions

Company Name	CVS Cruise Victoria Ltd.	Gray Line Sightseeing	Rolling Barrel Tours	Wilson's Transportation Ltd.
Allocated Stand Location	1	2	3	4
Time to use the stand	2 years	2 years	2 years	2 years
Emissions	2010 min	2010 min	None	2010 min
<b>Pricing</b>				
% of fleet meeting 2004 target for 2018-2020	100	100	100	100
% of fleet meeting 2020-22 target (2010 EPA) - 50% required for 2019 season	100	100	100	100
% of fleet meeting 2022-24 target (zero emissions) - 50% required for 2019 season	29%	0	100	0
Eligibility for 10/50/100% stand rate discount	50%	50%	100%	50%
<b>Annual charge</b>	\$13,603	\$13,603	\$0	\$9068
Eligible for multi-year stand agreement	2 year	2 year	5 year	2 year

The City received a fifth submission for access to bus stands, but notes that the operator currently manages vehicles that do not meet the minimum emissions performance standards. The City will continue to examine the possibility and inclusion of additional sightseeing stands for the future, and



will continue to engage with operators who may wish to submit applications for stand access.

Staff will also explore (in 2019) the options for applying these emissions quality schemes to other bus stands in the City, such as at the Belleville / Douglas bus stands and bring forward to Council recommendations to amend Schedule D of the Vehicles for Hire Bylaw to allow Council to allocate the stands by resolution.

Figure 1 – Parking Stand Locations (1, 2, 3 and 4).



Figure 1 - Parking Stand Locations (1, 2, 3 and 4).

## OPTIONS & IMPACTS

Option 1 – Lease four Vehicle Parking Stands as proposed. **(Recommended)**

The recommended motion is "That Council direct staff to:

Bring forward amendments to Schedule D of the City of Victoria *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw No. 03-060* that will allocate Sightseeing Vehicle Parking Stands as follows:

- e. Parking Stand 1 - CVS Cruise Victoria Ltd.;
- f. Parking Stand 2 - Gray Line Sightseeing;
- g. Parking Stand 3 - Rolling Barrel Tours;
- h. Parking Stand 4 - Wilson's Transportation Ltd.;

And assess an additional future amendment to the bylaw should the fifth respondent to the 2018 Request for Expressions of Interest meet the emissions standards."

Option 2 – Refer back to staff for alternative actions.

Council could reconsider the current direction. The risks of having no on-street bus stand zones, means all companies could sell their tours from private space or on-line, typically utilizing on-street loading spaces to pick up and drop off passengers (Passenger Loading Zones, Hotel Zones). Managing companies through City-approved on-street zones, enables the City to influence city bus fleet age and vehicle emissions, something currently outside the City's regulatory authority for companies operating from private space.

#### *Strategic Plan*

The recommendation supports Objective 5: Create Prosperity through Economic Development, by providing opportunities for motor sightseeing vehicle businesses to access curb space, and Objective 12: Take Climate Action and Prepare for Emergencies by moving the City towards the goal of zero emissions by 2050.

#### *Impacts to Financial Plan*

Allocation of the stands as recommended will result in annual revenue to the City of \$36,274. Revenues in 2018 were \$58,212, representing a reduction of \$21,938 which was anticipated for the 2018 financial plan.

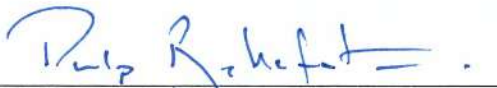
#### *Official Community Plan Consistency Statement*

The recommendation is consistent with the broad economic objectives from the Official Community Plan, including 14.31.1 and 14.31.2 – Strengthen the appeal of Victoria to tourists and other visitors in ways that enhance the community including accessible transportation to and within the City and a high quality of amenities, services and events.

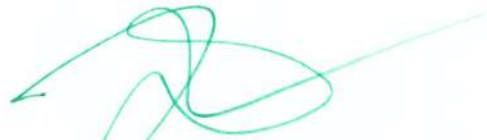
### **CONCLUSIONS**

An Expression of Interest process for Sightseeing Vehicle Parking Stands was completed, in accordance with Council direction. Staff are recommending Council approve the allocation of stands to Wilson's Transportation, CVS Sightseeing, Rolling Barrel, Big Bus and Grey Line.

Respectfully submitted,



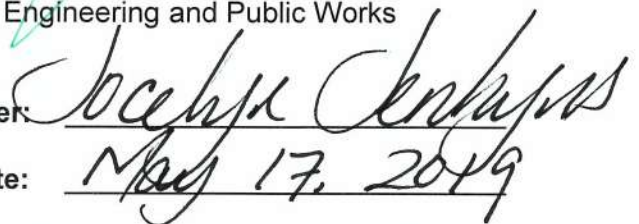
Philip Bellefontaine, Assistant  
Director - Transportation



Fraser Work, Director  
Engineering and Public Works

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:

  
May 17, 2019

### **List of Attachments**

Appendix A - March 2018 Committee of the Whole Report