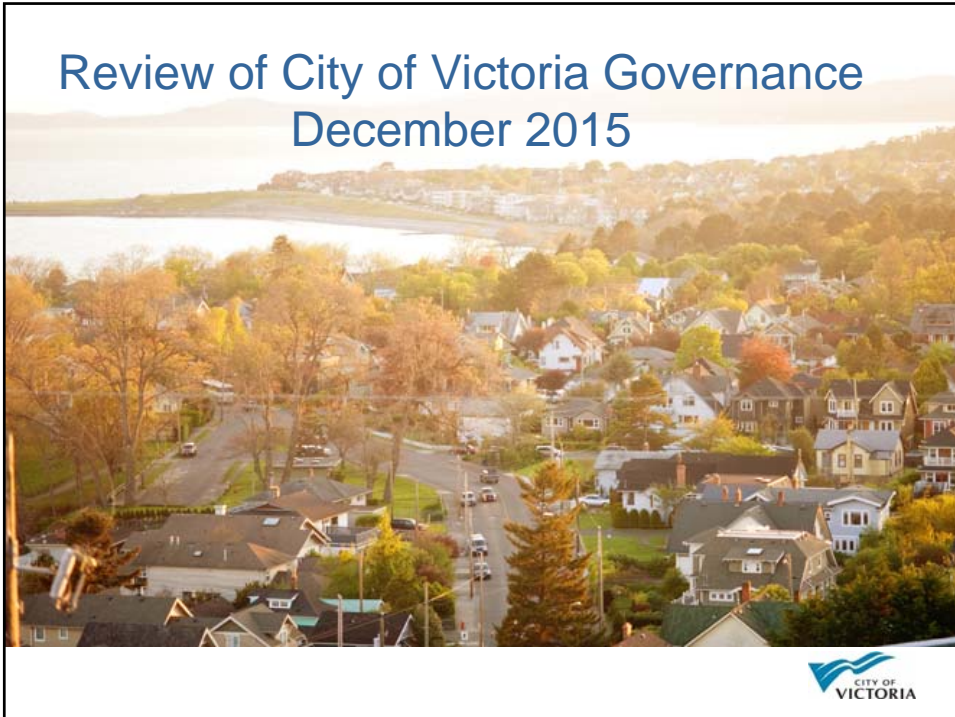


## Review of City of Victoria Governance December 2015



### City Governance

---

- January 2015 Governance Workshop identified Council (Procedures) Bylaw issues for discussion.
- Council's Strategic Plan outcomes supporting aligning business practices of Council with the Strategic Plan.
- Additional comments sought from members of Council in November 2015.

## City Governance

---

Guiding Principles of the Review:

- Transparency
- Public Participation
- Practical and clear approaches
- Effectiveness
- Efficiencies
- Best Practices



## Current Practices

---

Two Committee System:

- Planning and Land Use (Twice Monthly 9 am start Thursdays)
- Governance and Priorities (Twice Monthly 9am start, Thursdays)
- Committees Order of Business is not specified
- No specific policy or guidelines to establish what business comes forward. PLUC deals with Land Use matters and GPC with a wide range of other business.



## Current Practices

---

### Regular Council Meetings

- Held twice monthly at 7pm, Thursdays.
- Involving predominantly public hearings, public participation, considering development applications, ratifying GPC and PLUC Recommendations and reading Bylaws .
- Order of Business is expressly established in the Council (Procedures) Bylaw



## Governance Review Components

---

This report reviews and makes multiple recommendations on seven components of the City' Governance practices:

- Committee Structure
- Council Meeting Structure
- Council's submitted issues for discussion
- Physical Setting for Council and Committee Meetings
- Potential Council (Procedures) Bylaw Revisions
- Operational Issues
- Additional Staff Comments



## “Workshopping” the Issues

---

- The intention behind this comprehensive review is to enable a fulsome discussion on all aspects of governance.
- Identify strengths in current practices and areas for improvement.
- Address the issues important to Council members.
- Workshop is dynamic and can accommodate emerging issues in addition to what has been identified.



## Recommendations

---

That Council approve:

1. Consolidating Planning and Land Use Committee and Governance and Priorities Committee into a single Committee of the Whole.(meeting twice monthly)
2. The concept of holding split day and evening sessions of Council twice monthly.
3. Directing staff to prepare a Policy and Procedures document for Council's consideration.
4. Directing staff to bring forward a new Council Procedures Bylaw.



## Recommendations

---

5. Directing staff to prepare a companion document to the Council Procedures Bylaw to include an explanation of Council processes.
6. A three month trial using Horseshoe seating and a presentation table for Committee meetings.
7. Directing staff to prepare a best practices guide for the Public Hearing and post public hearing process.

