

GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE REPORT
FROM THE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2015

For the Council Meeting of November 26, 2015, the Committee recommends the following:

1. Motion – Support for Co-Operative Housing

That Council consider the following motion:

WHEREAS a significant challenge to the supply of affordable housing exists in the expiry of the federal co-op housing agreements that provide rent support for thousands of low-income households across B.C. and Canada, including some 1,172 in the Capital Region;

AND whereas maintaining support for co-op housing is a key component of providing affordable housing for our residents, as well as our municipal economic vibrancy and sustainability;

THEREFORE be it resolved that Council write to the Provincial and Federal governments, including the Premier, the Prime Minister, local MPs and MLAs, Ministers responsible for Housing, Health and Finance, requesting that they work jointly and separately on developing mechanisms to maintain a rent supplement program for the more than 20,000 low-income members in housing co-ops and that we call upon the Federal Government to commit now to reinvest the savings from expiring federal housing agreements to share the costs of funding this program.

2. Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project Quarterly Update

That City Council:

1. Direct staff to arrange for the H&H Engineer of Record (Keith Griesing) to appear before Council in public session to present his opinions on the quality of the structural steel being fabricated in China.
2. Direct staff to advise PCL that the City will not accept the schedule proposing a January 2018 project completion date and that the City will not authorize any further progress payments until an acceptable schedule is received.
3. Advise PCL that the City will recover 1.0 million from the next progress payment to offset the City's additional costs.
4. Direct staff to bring forward an amended Financial Plan Bylaw to the November 26, 2015 Council Meeting.

That Council postpone consideration of the following motion until a report from Keith Griesing is received.

That Council increase the budget by \$1.253 subject to Council and the Project Director being satisfied by the presentation from Keith Griesing as to the quality of the steel and the quality assurance measures in place.

That Council direct staff to report back on PCL's handling of contaminated soils and information on where soils are being transported to.

3. Tourism Victoria – Annual Presentation & Municipal Regional District Tax

That Council approve in principle the development of a renewed relationship with Tourism Victoria based on the following four principles:

1. Continue with the VCON partnership. Tourism Victoria will take the lead on the Sales & Marketing function at the Victoria Conference Centre. This will drive synergies and improve performance.
2. The Tourism Industry, through Tourism Victoria, will make a \$1M dollar industry contribution towards the David Foster Harbour Pathway, focused on Phase 2 of the Belleville Street Harbour Pathway. This matches the City of Victoria's contribution of \$1M dollars.
3. Accommodation sector voluntarily agrees to raise MRDT from 2% to 3%.
4. Financial analysis of the implications to the city including clear metrics for success and including comparative data for existing practices in other BC local governments.

That Council approve in principle the development of a renewed relationship with Tourism Victoria based on the additional principle:

1. Remove Grandfather Status and name Tourism Victoria the Eligible Entity for Destination Marketing.

4. Regional Economic Development Presentation

That Council:

1. Support in principle the proposed Regional Strategy and Model for Economic Development in South Vancouver Island provided that a majority of municipalities (7/13 at a minimum) participate in the new Regional Strategy and Model for Economic Development in South Vancouver Island; and,
2. Allocate \$129,545 from the unspent portion of the 2015 budget approved allocation for economic development for the purposes of creating a new regional economic development organization, subject to municipal inclusion on the Funding Partner's Council as laid out in the attached Report and subject to the creation of the new entity;
3. Appoint Mayor Helps as a designate to sit as a voluntary member of the Funding Partner's Council to represent the City of Victoria for an initial term of three years and appoint Councillor Lucas as alternate.

5. Regulations for Medical Marijuana-Related Businesses

That Council direct staff to:

1. Communicate regulations being considered broadly to the public, and invite feedback online and at an engagement event by early February 2016.
2. And that the City share their public engagement feedback with the Federal Government for their consideration as they move forward with the legalization and regulation of marijuana.
3. Bring back results of consultation and proposed bylaws for consideration after the public engagement.

6. David Foster Harbour Pathway – Heron Cove & Raymur Point Bridges

That Council direct staff to proceed with detailed design and costing for two steel pony truss multimodal bridges at Heron Cove and Raymur Point, at 39 metre and 49 metre lengths respectively.

And that staff report back as soon as practicable on the advisability of expanding the bridge to 5m or 5.5m.

7. Fibre Optic Connection Shared Infrastructure Agreement with Shaw

That Council authorize the Mayor and Corporate Administrator to execute an agreement with Shaw Cablesystems Limited ("Shaw") to permit the City's use of Shaw's fibre optic pipe conduits in the 500 block of Pandora Avenue in exchange for the City transferring to Shaw an abandoned 50 metre portion of watermain located on Pandora, in a form satisfactory to staff.

8. Great Neighbourhoods

That Council direct staff to provide routine updates on the new neighbourhood model within Quarterly Operational Plan.

9. Crystal Pool Long Term Plan

WHEREAS, the City's Strategic Plan identifies the objective to "Facilitate Social Inclusion and Community Wellness," with the 2016 action: "Tender required upgrades and invest in public pool and fitness facility," and the 2017 outcome: "Crystal Pool issues are resolved by replacing or renovating the facility. Victoria has a modern, inclusive public pool and fitness facility in a central location, with increased revenue. Opportunities for accessible sports and fitness by children and adults."

AND WHEREAS, it is not desirable for Victoria to initiate a new mega-project at this time, in light of other priorities and due to existing borrowing capacity and resource requirements for other infrastructure projects;

AND WHEREAS, studies previously commissioned by the City provide a roadmap for the refurbishment of the Crystal Pool, to restore the physical plant, increase energy efficiency, and improve change-room, fitness and other facilities in the building.

AND WHEREAS, members of the public desire a high-quality and universally accessible fitness facility in the capital city;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Canada is preparing to launch a \$5-billion infrastructure program, with shovel-ready projects best suited to seize opportunities created by this program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back on a priority basis on options for the refurbishment and or replacement of the Crystal Pool and Facilities Centre, including alignment with federal and provincial infrastructure funding.