



**REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
ON PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT**

**MAY 29, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Planning, Transportation and Environment was held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at 9:35 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Andrea Reimer, Chair  
Mayor Gregor Robertson\*  
Councillor George Affleck\*  
Councillor Elizabeth Ball  
Councillor Adriane Carr\*  
Councillor Heather Deal  
Councillor Kerry Jang\*  
Councillor Raymond Louie\*  
Councillor Geoff Meggs, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Tim Stevenson\*  
Councillor Tony Tang

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Sadhu Johnston, Deputy City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk  
Wendy Stewart, Deputy City Clerk  
Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator  
Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

**MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT**

**MOVED** by Councillor Deal

**THAT** the Committee adopt items 6 and 7 on consent.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**  
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

\* \* \* \* \*

**VARY AGENDA**

**MOVED** by Councillor Deal

**THAT** the Committee vary the order of the agenda to hear item 4 first.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY**  
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

*Note: For ease of reference the minutes are recorded in numerical order.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## AGENDA ITEMS

*Note: Items 1 and 2 were dealt with concurrently as the presentation for Item 1 also included information related to Item 2.*

### 1. Presentation: Report Back Transportation 2040 - Improving Local Transit

Staff from Strategic Transportation Planning provided a presentation on Improving Local Transit as it relates to the Transportation 2040 Plan, noting the presentation would also touch on item 2 on the agenda, regarding the trial of taxis in bus lanes. Staff also responded to questions.

### 2. Report Back on Taxis in Bus Lanes May 13, 2013

The Director, Transportation Division, along with Transportation staff, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from two speakers in support of the recommendations.

Councillor Carr requested staff ensure the Suburban Taxi Association operates in a similar manner to the Vancouver Taxi association, in terms of penalties for stopping in bus lanes and how seniors and people with disabilities are treated.

MOVED by Councillor Meggs

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT, pursuant to section 124.2 (1) of the Motor Vehicle Act, Council expressly permit taxis to travel but not stop in bus lanes.
- B. THAT, pursuant to Section 124.2 (2), the Mayor write to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, requesting approval to permit taxis to travel but not stop in that portion of the bus lanes that are within 800m of an arterial highway.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillors Louie and Stevenson, and Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

\* \* \* \* \*

*The Committee recessed at 11:00 am and reconvened at 11:13 am with the same members present except for Councillors Jang, Louie and Stevenson, who were not in the chamber.*

\* \* \* \* \*

### 3. Oakridge Centre Rezoning - Issues and Directions May 21, 2013

The General Manager, Planning and Development Services, introduced the report, noting that this is not a Public Hearing and therefore the recommendations in the report are of a general nature to provide guidance for staff in moving negotiations forward. He also explained that any changes to the recommendations by the Committee should be similarly general in nature.

Staff from Planning and Development Services presented the report and, along with the General Manager, Park Board, staff from Engineering Services and Housing Policy, and a representative from TransLink, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from eight speakers in support of the recommendations, 14 speakers opposed to the recommendations, and one speaker who addressed other issues related to the report.

\* \* \* \* \*

*At noon it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Jang*

*THAT the Committee extend the length of the meeting to deal with the items listed in the agenda.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

*Subsequently, at 1:11 pm it was*

*MOVED by Councillor Deal*

*THAT the Committee recess the meeting until 2:00 pm.*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*The Committee recessed at 1:11 pm and reconvened at 2:03 pm with the same members present except Councillors Deal, Louie, Stevenson and the Mayor, who were not in the chamber.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Following the recess, the Committee continued to hear from speakers.

POSTPONEMENT MOVED by Councillor Reimer  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT discussion and decision on the Policy Report dated May 21, 2013, entitled, "Oakridge Centre Rezoning - Issues and Directions" be postponed to the Regular Council meeting on June 11, 2013, as Unfinished Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Stevenson and the Mayor absent for the vote)

Councillor Reimer requested staff provide further information prior to the Regular Council meeting on June 11, 2013, on a street perspective of the model and existing leases, including expiry dates, at Oakridge Mall.

**4. Granting Civic Parade Status  
April 17, 2013**

The General Manager of Engineering Services, the Director, Transportation Division, and staff from the Streets Activities Branch, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from one speaker opposed to the recommendations.

*During debate, Councillor Louie rose on a point of order that Councillor Affleck was not speaking to the merits of the report. The Chair ruled Councillor Affleck out of order.*

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council create a Civic Parade category specific to large parades, which includes qualifying criteria as outlined in the Administrative Report dated April 17, 2013, entitled "Granting Civic Parade Status".
- B. THAT Council grant Civic Parade status to Pride Parade, Vaisakhi Parade and the Chinatown Spring Festival Parade and grandfather the Civic designation for the Grey Cup Celebration into this new Civic category. Future expansion beyond the four parades noted would be based on criteria and brought to Council for approval.
- C. THAT, subject to approval of B above, Council approve up to \$20,000, per qualifying Civic Parade organization, if required, on a one-time basis, for the development of operational plans, funding from the 2013 Operating Budget up to a total of \$60,000.
- D. THAT, subject to approval of B above, Council approve an offset towards eligible City services costs for each parade, as described in the Administrative Report dated April 17, 2013, entitled "Granting Civic Parade Status" up to the maximums described in the framework, on an ongoing basis. Cost for 2013 will be funded from the 2013 Operating Budget. Funding for future years will be managed within the context of the annual budget process.
- E. THAT, subject to approval of B above, Council approve an additional financial incentive of up to \$10,000 per qualifying parade, over a three year period, for the purposes of event greening and working toward zero waste events, up to a total of \$40,000. Cost for 2013 will be funded from the 2013 Operating Budget. Funding for future years will be managed within the context of the annual budget process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

**5. PGA TOUR Canada - Vancouver Event  
May 3, 2013**

This item was withdrawn at the request of staff.

**6. 5895 Boundary Road - Request for Injunctive Relief and Notice on Title  
April 29, 2013**

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services, in her discretion, to commence a legal action or proceeding in relation to the property located at 5895 Boundary Road (Lot 46, Block 14, Plan VAP4543, District Lot 36, PID 011-500-514) and to seek injunctive relief in that action or proceeding in order to bring this property into compliance with City By-laws.
- B. THAT the City Clerk be directed to file a 336D Notice in the Land Title Office in relation to the building at 5895 Boundary Road located on Lot 46, Block 14, Plan VAP4543, District Lot 36, PID 011-500-514; to inform prospective purchasers that there are contraventions on the property of the Zoning and Development By-law, Electrical By-law and the Building By-law.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**7. 8160 St. George Street - Request for Injunctive Relief and Notice on Title  
May 1, 2013**

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services, in her discretion, to commence a legal action or proceeding in relation to the property located at 8160 St. George Street (Parcel Identifier: 008-484-244; Legal Description: Lot A, Block 31, Plan VAP14166, District Lot 313, NWD of Block B) and to seek injunctive relief in that action or proceeding in order to bring this property into compliance with City By-laws.
- B. THAT the City Clerk be directed to file a 336D Notice in the Land Title Office in relation to the building at 8160 St. George Street ((Parcel Identifier: 008-484-244; Legal Description: Lot A, Block 31, Plan VAP14166, District Lot 313, NWD of Block B)) to inform prospective purchasers that there are contraventions on the property of the Zoning and Development By-law, the Electrical By-law and the Building By-law.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**8. Vancouver Bird-Friendly Strategy**

At its meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, Vancouver City Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, in order to hear from speakers.

*Note: The motion contains revisions to the original motion, which were accepted by the Committee.*

The Committee heard from five speakers in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Reimer  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Metro Vancouver, including Vancouver, supports 407 identified bird species, most of which are migratory;
2. Birds, through their dependence on many habitats along their migrations, often feel the effects of changing habitats before many other species, making them key indicators for the environmental health and thus the health of residents;
3. Canada's science-based 'Important Bird Areas Program', an initiative to identify, conserve and monitor a network of sites that provide essential habitat for Canada's bird population, has identified the Fraser River Delta adjacent to Vancouver as BC's most significant important bird area, supporting millions of birds annually;
4. Birding tourism accounted for \$35.7 billion in expenditures in the United States in 2009, the most recent year for which information is available. Although no comparable study exists in Canada, estimates of birding participation rates in western Canada for the same year are much higher than in the United States (30% versus 21%);
5. The Greenest City Action Plan recognizes that natural spaces need to be protected and well managed, and that the City should contribute to, and influence, the development of Metro Vancouver's Regional Biodiversity Strategy, which includes guidelines to create or re-establish wildlife corridors;
6. Since 2010 the City has partnered with the Vancouver Park Board, Stanley Park Ecology Society, Nature Vancouver, Bird Studies Canada and other community partners to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day and provide a week of public education programming about birds and bird habitat;
7. Toronto, Calgary, Chicago and several other North American cities have successfully established bird-friendly strategies, that include public education, habitat creation and protection, building guidelines, and tourism strategies;
8. The Vancouver Park Board will be debating a motion at their next meeting to expand their efforts to protect and expand bird habitat, and public education programs on birds.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT staff report back on best practices for monitoring and protecting bird populations in an urban environment, including building and landscape guidelines.
- B. THAT birding tourism be included as part of the Vancouver Tourism Master Plan being developed with Tourism Vancouver.

- C. THAT staff work with the City's World Migratory Bird Day partners to expand public education efforts for 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillors Carr, Stevenson and the Mayor absent for the vote)

## 9. The Centre for Performing Arts

At its meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, Vancouver City Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, in order to hear from speakers.

*Councillor Affleck rose and declared Conflict of Interest on this item due to a client relationship with The Centre. He left the meeting at 4:54 pm and did not return.*

The Managing Director, Cultural Services, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from 11 speakers in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Ball

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver acknowledges of the economic importance of culture and the arts in Vancouver;
2. The City of Vancouver has invested both time and funding to source and plan for more purpose built cultural facilities in the city;
3. Cultural spaces are vital to communities and neighborhoods, and are essential for thriving economic and social well-being, but facilities can become vulnerable in surging real estate markets;
4. The Centre for Performing Arts is located in the centre of Vancouver's Cultural District or precinct;
5. The Centre for Performing Arts has served for a number of years as a purpose built venue for Dance and Music;
6. The Centre has a proud history of presenting many works celebrating both diversity and acceptance;
7. There are media reports that The Centre is being sold to a non-entertainment organization;
8. Several respected arts organizations that had a season or event planned in The Centre have had their bookings abruptly cancelled. As performing arts organizations must make arrangements years in advance, this situation will cause major financial hardship;
9. Hundreds of entertainment related professionals will lose their jobs should The Centre be lost to the community;

10. The Centre is the only alternate mid-size theatre appropriate for dance, sound reinforced musical events and theatre that is available to rent in central Vancouver at 1800 seats;
11. The Vancouver Civic Theatres, the Queen Elizabeth with 2,800 seats, the Orpheum with 2,800 seats and the Playhouse with 650 seats, are not able to fill all the needs of commercial entertainment promoters and non-profit cultural organizations in the city;
12. Famed architect Moshe Safdie designed the theatre's marquee as an homage to music. The theatre has been recognized as an important part of our cultural heritage.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

- A. THAT Council direct staff to examine any possibilities for City use of The Centre for Performing Arts which would enable the Centre to continue to support a vibrant cultural life in the city for years to come; and that staff report back to Council on the results of those explorations.
- B. THAT if The Centre for Performing Arts is sold to a non-cultural organization this year, Council directs staff to negotiate with the owners so that permission is given for previously booked tenants to perform up until December 31, 2013. Such permission will avert a serious destabilization of the economic realities of the local cultural community.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(Councillors Affleck, Carr, Stevenson and the Mayor absent for the vote)

The Committee adjourned at 5:56 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*





**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON  
PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT**

**MAY 29, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at 5:56 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Elizabeth Ball  
Councillor Heather Deal  
Councillor Kerry Jang  
Councillor Raymond Louie  
Councillor Geoff Meggs  
Councillor Andrea Reimer  
Councillor Tony Tang

**ABSENT:** Mayor Gregor Robertson  
Councillor George Affleck  
Councillor Adriane Carr  
Councillor Tim Stevenson

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Sadhu Johnston, Deputy City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk  
Wendy Stewart, Deputy City Clerk  
Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment  
May 29, 2013

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment. Its items of business included:

1. Presentation: Report Back Transportation 2040 - Improving Local Transit
2. Report Back on Taxis in Bus Lanes
3. Oakridge Centre Rezoning - Issues and Directions
4. Granting Civic Parade Status
5. PGA TOUR Canada - Vancouver Event - WITHDRAWN
6. 5895 Boundary Road - Request for Injunctive Relief and Notice on Title
7. 8160 St. George Street - Request for Injunctive Relief and Notice on Title
8. Vancouver Bird-Friendly Strategy
9. The Centre for Performing Arts

**Items 1 - 9**

MOVED by Councillor Tang

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment at its meeting of Wednesday, May 29, 2013, as contained in Items 1 to 9, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillor Jang  
SECONDED by Councillor Tang

THAT the Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 5:57 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*