



2017-2018 Work Plan Renters Advisory Committee

Mandate

Policy Advice

- Provide input to City Council and City staff about issues of concern.
- Consider any matters which may be referred to the Committee by Council or staff.
- May take positions on policy initiatives from other levels of government within the mandate of the Committee.

Collaboration

- Work co-operatively with other agencies whose activities affect constituent communities, including initiating and developing relevant projects.
- Act as a resource for staff doing public involvement processes and/or civic events.

Awareness & Outreach

- Exchange information with the constituent communities and the general public about relevant programs and issues of interest.
- Engage in outreach to disseminate information and encourage participation from constituent communities.

Renters

- Advise Council on strategic City priorities relating to renters, to monitor and respond to the impacts of provincial and federal legislation affecting tenants.
- Advise Council on enhancing access and inclusion for renters in developing policy and civic life.



2017-2018 Objectives

Objective 1: Provide Council with advice on housing policy issues affecting renters

Providing policy advice is one of the core purposes of the Renters Advisory Committee. Several members are interested in issues related to zoning and the supply and location of rental housing, which are all aspects of the City's rental housing policies. We have already identified three particular topics or policies that we would like to provide input about, and as others arise, they will fall under this objective.

Objective 2: Contribute to a more accurate understanding of renters and rental issues

Several members have identified that they are concerned about inaccurate or negative perceptions of renters. Taking steps to correct and improve the perception of renters in the City of Vancouver would contribute to fulfilling the awareness and outreach aspects of the Committee's mandate, as well as the inclusion and access aspects.

Objective 3: Engage with renters and others to bring attention to renters' issues and improve conditions for Vancouver renters

This objective contributes to the fulfillment of the awareness, outreach, collaboration and inclusion aspects of our mandate.

Action Plan

Timeline	Action Items	Committee Resources	Expected Outcomes	Partners/Stakeholders
Advise council on housing policy issues affecting renters				
April 2017 - July 2017	Provide input on City's the updated housing strategy (Housing Vancouver).	Karen S. Danny Andrea	A Committee statement or motion	City staff
June 2017 - December 2017	Provide input on the issue of minimum parking requirements as they relate to the affordability of purpose-built rental housing.	Natasha Karen S. Danny	A motion or short report/position paper	City staff
May 2017 - November 2018	Monitor any changes in the provincial <i>Residential Tenancy Act</i> and advocate for changes that benefit renters, especially regarding fixed-term tenancies.	Andrew Andrea Karen A.	May take the form of motions or letters to Council and related op-eds, news releases or events.	May consult or collaborate with non-profits and advocacy groups such as TRAC and CLAS.
Contribute to a more accurate understanding of renters and rental issues				
May 2017 - November 2018	State of renters report.	Natasha Samrah Annie Karen A.	A report Possibly an outreach event	CLAS City staff
March 2017 - November 2018	Regularly invite speakers to inform the Committee's understanding of issues, in order to aid our outreach and advocacy work.	Karen S. Danny Karen A.	A more informed Committee that is better positioned to advocate. We will keep a list of invited speakers and how they have informed/influenced our work.	Various organizations, advocates and experts City staff
Engage with renters and others to bring attention to renters issues and improve conditions for Vancouver renters				
March 2017- May 2017	Ask Vancouver provincial election candidates to respond to our questionnaire on rental issues and post their responses on Facebook page.	Karen A. Alvin	Answers to questionnaire posted on Facebook Page	N/A
March 2017 - November 2018	Maintain Renters Advisory Committee Facebook page.	Alvin	Facebook page is updated regularly Number of people who "like" or follow it increases from current 753/761 (as of May 2017).	N/A