

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"LaClaire, Lon" <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>

Date: 7/6/2020 2:50:48 PM

Subject: Memo - Alcohol Consumption in Public Spaces Pilot Update

Attachments: Memo - Alcohol Consumption in Public Spaces Pilot Update.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire to update on the alcohol consumption in designated public spaces pilot. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Staff are working with internal and external stakeholders, including the Park Board, Vancouver Coastal Health, and Vancouver Police Department on criteria and approaches for: site selection, management and stewardship, and monitoring and data collection.
- The selection of pilot sites will depend on interest from external partners, including Business Improvement Associations, businesses, and community organizations; an **Expression of Interest** will be released early this week.
- Depending on the uptake of potential partners, staff anticipate 6 to 10 pilot sites may be identified (including existing and temporary plazas) for Council's consideration.
- Staff will bring the required by-law and location considerations to Council in late July for a pilot this summer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca.

Best
Sadhu

Sadhu Afochs Johnston | City Manager
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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MEMORANDUM

July 6, 2020

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Civic Engagement and Communications Director
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Jessie Adcock, General Manager, Development, Buildings and Licensing
Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services
Shauna Wilton, Acting General Manager, Park Board

FROM: Lon LaClaire
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Alcohol Consumption in Public Spaces Pilot Update

This memo outlines the approach and upcoming engagement for the alcohol consumption in public spaces pilot. Working closely with community partners and business improvement associations (BIAs) and with ongoing input from Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and Vancouver Police Department (VPD), this pilot project is an opportunity to support local businesses and communities in rebuilding and reconnecting after a long period of disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the pilot would allow staff to collect and analyze data to inform potential long-range public space policy and projects. The pilot is expected to run until October 31, 2020.

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has detrimentally impacted Vancouver's businesses and communities. Emergency health and safety restrictions have been implemented to slow the spread of the virus, and while largely successful, have also had negative effects on local businesses and placed barriers on social connectivity.

On June 23, 2020, Council directed staff to develop and prioritize a temporary pilot project to allow for the public consumption of alcohol in designated public spaces. The goal of this motion is to support businesses during a time of capacity reduction and to provide additional socializing spaces for those who may not have access to private outdoor spaces. This work coincides with a similar proposed pilot led by the Park Board to test alcohol consumption in select park spaces around the city.

To date, staff have been engaging closely with VCH, VPD, the Park Board (“Parks”), and internal departments to develop:

- Draft site criteria that ensure pilot sites are safe, respectful, welcoming, and accessible to all members of the public;
- A management / stewardship plan to identify and mitigate against potential risks and concerns; and
- A series of robust monitoring plans to gather data for informed decision-making (during the pilot) and long-range policy development.

To minimize community risks and build on strong community partnerships, staff have determined that this pilot and its site selection process depend on interest and participation from local BIAs and businesses / community partners. This approach mirrors the existing temporary Pop-Up Plaza Program currently underway.

Actions to date include:

- Engaging with internal stakeholders, VPD, VCH, and Parks to identify concerns and opportunities;
- Developing pilot principles, drafting spatial criteria, drafting management/stewardship plan, and drafting monitoring approaches;
- Engaging with local BIAs and community partners via an ‘Expression of Interest’ – to gauge interest for potential locations and partnerships with this pilot; and
- Working directly with key stakeholders on a potential approach for an Italian heritage recognition ‘piazza’ location outside of the Commercial Drive BIA area, as this was identified as a priority pilot within Council’s direction.

Next Steps

Staff will issue an ‘Expression of Interest’ early this week, and as proposals are received, staff will shortlist pilot sites. It is anticipated that up to 6-10 sites will be considered throughout this pilot, but the final proposed count and distribution will depend on interest and intake from public partners.

A report and presentation to Council is anticipated in late July, 2020 with the required by-law, proposed locations, and an update on management and monitoring practices.

If you have any questions with regard to the Alcohol Consumption in Public Space Pilot, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services

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