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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 9/23/2021 6:22:18 PM
Subject: Council Chamber Upgrades

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

The purpose of this email is to update Council on recent upgrades to the audio/visual system in the Council Chamber.

Over the summer, the Council Chamber went through a major upgrade to its audio/visual system. The upgrade was required to address issues associated with end of life/older technology, to increase long term cost savings by reducing future replacement costs and to enhance user experience for Council, staff and citizens.

The following provides a high level overview of upgrades to the Council Chamber AV system.

COUNCIL CHAMBER AV SYSTEM UPDGRADES

1. Video System

- a. Installed new Video Distribution System to address end of life / older technology.
- b. Upgraded to IP based system allowing for faster and more efficient troubleshooting in the event of a problem.
- c. Installed new video cameras utilizing the same technology as the video distribution system allowing for high resolution streams to all devices and better viewing/resolution for public gallery, Council Chamber floor and video streams to public.

2. Projection

- a. Installed new Projector Screen with flat image and no ripples in the fabric which increases resolution/viewing for public gallery and Council Chamber floor.
- b. Installed new Laser Projector (*Phase 2 - arrival before the end of October*) which will significantly boost brightness/resolution for public viewing and have longer life due to laser technology, resulting in long term cost savings from less frequent replacement.

3. Broadcast System

- a. Implemented projection of virtual participants in the Council Chamber to allow in person attendees to see and hear Council members participating electronically.
- b. Implemented picture in picture display where 2 images are broadcast on the stream at the same time, with one of the images being full screen and the other in an insert box (ex. Viewers will see the insert box when a Council member is asking a question during a presentation or when an amendment is displayed on screen).
- c. Installed dedicated amplifiers at each Councilor's desk allowing for better audio for Council and the public in the Council Chamber and viewing online.
- d. To implement closed captioning (*Phase 2 - to be tested*). Staff are pursuing options for this feature for YouTube, Vancouver.ca, Council Chamber, Joe Wai room displays.

4. Chair's Crestron Panel

- a. The Chair's desk has a new 15" touch panel (previously 10") used to manage the A/V during the meetings.
- b. Council speaking timer now has the ability to reset individual or all Council member timers. Also has the ability to auto start the Council timer when the Chair advances the speaking queue.
- c. New "Ineligible" vote option for Council members to select when not eligible to vote on a Public Hearing item
- d. Ability to re-broadcast a vote result (*Phase 2 - to be tested*)

There are still a few minor details to work out and staff will continue to monitor and address them during the next few meetings. If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk, at rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḥwax̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.