Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny providing an update on the West End Parking Strategy. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

The market-based permit rate of $360/year ($30/month) for new permit holders comes into effect in the West End permit zone on September 1, 2017.

Other parts of the Strategy are well underway: parking meters have been added to some visitor spaces (successfully creating parking opportunities) and licence plate recognition vehicles are being used for enhanced enforcement.

Actions coming up as part of the strategy include: a report back on creating a participatory budget process to use revenue generated by increased revenue from permit sales, a report back on unlocking unused parking within buildings, and allowing visitors to parking in residential permit parking spaces during off-peak periods.

If you have further questions regarding the West End Parking Strategy, please contact Jennifer Draper at jennifer.draper@vancouver.ca or 604-873-7370.

Thank you,
Paul

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MEMORANDUM  
August 31, 2017

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
    Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
    Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk
    Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager’s Office
    Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications
    Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor’s Office
    Katie Robb, Director, Communications, Mayor’s Office
    Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor’s Office
    Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: August 2017 Update on West End Parking Strategy

The implementation of the West End Parking Strategy, which was approved by Council in February 2017, is well underway. A major milestone in the plan begins on September 1, 2017 when the market-based permit rate of $360/year ($30/month) comes into effect for new permit holders.

The Strategy, which responds to community-identified concerns and supports actions in the Transportation 2040 Plan and West End Community Plan, aims to make it easier to find parking in the West End permit zone without encouraging more driving overall. To inform Council of its current status, an overview of the Strategy roll-out to date has been provided below.

MARKET-BASED RATE FOR NEW PARKING PERMITS

Starting September 1, 2017, the market-based rate of $360/year ($30/month) for new parking permits begins in the West End permit zone. These rates will apply only to new permit holders.
holders in the zone; existing permit holders that have not let their permit lapse for 90 days will continue to pay the non-market rate of $74.19/year ($6.18/month).

Additionally, per Council’s direction, low-income residents will also have access to the non-market rate. To be eligible for the non-market rate, residents must either be enrolled in the Vancouver Park Board Leisure Access Program or have documentation (similar to what is required for the Leisure Access Program) that confirms their low-income status.

Increased revenue from permit sales at the new market rate will be earmarked for use in the West End through a participatory budgeting process. A report back to Council outlining this process is expected at the end of this year.

Staff are also monitoring feedback from the public to ensure that by-law changes that allow the charging of non-market rates function as intended. If changes are required to better serve the public, while still being consistent with the overall goals of the plan, staff will bring forward minor by-law amendments for Council’s approval.

DIVIDE THE PERMIT ZONE INTO THREE SMALLER ZONES

The Strategy recommends that the West End permit zone be split into three smaller zones.

There are no plans to divide the permit zone in the near future. Staff will continue to monitor the effectiveness of other parts of the Strategy to determine when splitting the zone is appropriate.

UNLOCK UNUSED PARKING

The Strategy recommends that buildings with unused parking be able to rent spaces to West End residents from other buildings. Staff intend to report back to Council with zoning amendments to allow off-street parking in residential buildings for other residents next year.

IMPROVE PARKING ENFORCEMENT

The Strategy recommends the implementation of new technologies to improve enforcement efficiency.

To enforce residential permit parking regulations in the West End, as well as other permit zones, licence plate recognition technology has been deployed.

ALLOW VISITOR PARKING IN RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING SPACES DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS

The Strategy recommends the implementation of pay-parking for visitors in some permit parking spaces during off-peak periods.

Staff will be conducting additional data collection this September to narrow down the locations and times where visitor parking could be introduced in permit parking spaces. It is expected that some spaces will be converted by the end of this year.
ADD PARKING METERS TO SOME VISITOR SPACES

The Strategy recommends that parking meters be installed in some existing time-limited (i.e. 2-hour only) parking spaces to ensure availability for residential spaces. Out of the approximately 500 time-limited spaces on-street in the West End, about 179 spaces have been converted to meter parking and 29 more are planned to be converted by the end of this year.

Initial occupancy data collected indicates that spaces for visitors have been made available on nearly all newly metered blocks.

CONVERT SOME RESIDENTIAL PARKING TO VISITOR PARKING

The Strategy recommends that the supply of visitor parking be increased by reallocating some residential permit parking spaces in the future, once demand is reduced.

There are no plans to convert residential parking to visitor parking in the near future. Staff will continue to monitor the effectiveness of other parts of the Strategy to determine when this action is appropriate.

If you have further questions regarding the West End Parking Strategy, please contact Jennifer Draper at jennifer.draper@vancouver.ca or 604-873-7370.

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