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Date: 3/26/2018 3:13:24 PM
Subject: Memo - Outdoor Lighting Strategy Public Consultation
Attachments: Memo to Mayor and Council - Outdoor Lighting Strategy Public Consultatio....pdf

Greetings Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Gil Kelley regarding Outdoor Lighting Strategy Public Consultation. A brief summary is below:

- The memo provides a status update on the development of the Outdoor Lighting Strategy
- The memo is to inform Mayor and Council that staff will be conducting public consultation on the strategy this spring
- The intent is to bring forward the Outdoor Lighting Strategy to Council for approval in July, 2018.

Should you have any questions, please contact Gil Kelley at 604.873.7456 or Gil.Kelley@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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VanRIMS No.: 01-9000-20

MEMORANDUM

March 23, 2018

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
Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor's Office
Doug Smith, Director of Sustainability, PDS
Anita Molaro, Assistant Director of Urban Design, PDS
Taryn Scollard, Director of Streets, Engineering
Danica Djurkovic, Director of Facilities Planning and Development, REFM
Pat Ryan, Chief Building Official, DBL
Kathryn Holm, Director of Licensing, Property Use, and Animal Control, DBL

FROM: Gil Kelley, General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Outdoor Lighting Strategy Public Consultation

Dear Mayor and Council,

In February 2015, Council approved a motion directing staff to work *"towards enacting a healthy, safe and energy efficient outdoor lighting strategy in order to control harmful outdoor lighting, set standards for outdoor lighting and provide for the designation of dark-sky preserves"*.

The following memo is meant to provide a status update on the development of an Outdoor Lighting Strategy, in response to Council's motion, and to inform Mayor and Council that staff will be conducting public consultation on the strategy this spring.

Overview:

At a high level, the Outdoor Lighting Strategy aims to:

- Ensure safe urban environments;
- Protect human health;
- Create inviting and accessible spaces;
- Mitigate impacts on biodiversity;
- Improve energy efficiency and reduce wastage; and
- Promote light pollution education and awareness.

The draft Strategy including several key components:

LED retrofit of streetlights: Staff commissioned a business case last year to calculate the return on investment of a city-wide retrofit program to convert the 40,000 existing street lights to LED fixtures. The results were favourable, pointing to substantial operating budget savings resulting from reduced energy use and maintenance needs, as well as reductions to our corporate greenhouse gas emissions.

Lighting design guidelines: Guidelines are currently being developed to support better, more consistent outdoor lighting design for City capital projects (including street lighting, public spaces, and City-owned facilities) as well as development projects. The guidelines will ensure lighting levels, colour and light design (shielding, light spillage, etc.) are based on best available science and appropriate for particular settings (i.e., arterial and local streets, pedestrian pathways, ecologically sensitive areas, etc.).

Bylaw review and recommendations: Staff are exploring regulatory approaches to control light pollution from private property. The intent is to provide the City with a regulatory tool to ensure that private lighting doesn't compromise the environment (e.g., cause unnecessary sky glow) or quality of life for neighbours.

Dark sky preserves: A report will be produced that highlights the feasibility and actions needed to achieve an urban "dark-sky" designation offered by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. As the most likely location for such a designation is a large park, staff are working closely with Park Board staff on this report.

Stakeholder and public engagement

Staff recognise that residents and businesses rely on, and are affected by, outdoor lighting in many different ways. There have also been some concerns raised in other cities about the comfort and health impacts of LED lighting, which have led to LED retrofit programs being delayed or halted.

To ensure any concerns are addressed proactively, staff will be producing a consultation white paper that outlines the rationale and proposed approach for the Outdoor Lighting Strategy.

Staff will be conducting a thorough stakeholder and public engagement process. Groups that have been consulted or will be consulted shortly include:

- Women's Advisory Committee
- Seniors' Advisory Committee
- Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee
- Active Transportation Policy Council
- Bird Committee
- Vancouver Police Department
- Vancouver Park Board
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- Vancouver General Hospital - Eye Care Centre
- Environment Canada
- HR MacMillan Space Centre
- Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
- DTES Women's Centre
- Business Improvement Associations
- Vancouver Public Space Network
- BC Hydro
- Urban Development Institute
- Greater Vancouver Homebuilders of BC
- Architectural Institute of BC
- Engineering and Geoscientists of BC

Next steps

Staff will be conducting stakeholder and public engagement on the Outdoor Lighting Strategy from March through to May. The intent is to bring forward the Outdoor Lighting Strategy to Council for approval in July, 2018.

If you have any questions about this work, please don't hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'G' followed by a horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Gil Kelley, FAICP
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

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