

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

**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"

"Kelley, Gil" <Gil.Kelley@vancouver.ca>

"Pickard, Gail" <Gail.Pickard@vancouver.ca>

**Date:** 3/20/2020 3:26:21 PM

**Subject:** Memo - Public Engagement Period for Secured Rental Housing Policy Implementation Extended due to COVID-19

**Attachments:** Memo to Council - Public Engagement Period for Secured Rental Housing Po....pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Gil Kelley, General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, regarding Public Engagement Period for Secured Rental Housing Policy Implementation Extended due to COVID-19. A brief summary is as follows –

- This memo provides Council with an update on the consultation timeline and process for the implementation of the Secured Rental Housing Policy.
- Due to COVID 19 outbreak, staff are extended the timeframe for public input on the policy and proposed zoning changes. This extension will result in a delay in the zoning changes proposed under the policy coming to Public Hearing. The target Public Hearing date in late May will be postponed into June at the earliest.
- Staff will notify the public through the City's website and through the list serve of interested residents, and will continue to work towards the delivery of this important Council initiative as quickly as possible.

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.*

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## MEMORANDUM

March 20, 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, Communications Director  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Alvin Singh, Community Relations Director, Mayor's Office

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

SUBJECT: Public Engagement Period for Secured Rental Housing Policy Implementation  
Extended due to COVID-19

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Over the last month, staff have undertaken public and stakeholder engagement efforts to share information and gather input on the emerging directions and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Secured Rental Policy, approved by Council on November 26, 2019.

These efforts have included:

- Information materials and updates posted online and shared via mailing lists, social media and other channels
- A meeting with members of the development industry (UDI)
- A workshop with architects and designers
- Meetings with agencies and committees, including the Vancouver City Planning Commission, Renters Advisory Committee and executive directors of local BIAs
- A series of 7 public information sessions scheduled in locations across the city
- Gathering written feedback through online comment forms available online from March 3 to March 20 and at the public information sessions

As a result of critical emergency responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff cancelled the 7th and final public information session (previously scheduled for the evening of Tuesday March 17th at Sunset Community Centre). All other activities listed above were completed. A final meeting with architects, designers and development industry representatives has also been postponed as a result of the pandemic.

Staff have received specific requests from members of the public to have a staff presentation, and for responses to Frequently Asked Questions that staff heard from community groups and at public open houses. Staff have also heard requests to extend the consultation period so that residents can provide additional feedback.

The COVID-19 situation has been rapidly evolving and there is significant uncertainty regarding the time horizon of this crisis event. As part of the City's response, alternative approaches to priority public engagement activities that do not involve in-person gatherings are being implemented where possible. As a result, staff do not anticipate that it will be feasible to reschedule the Sunset information session or hold additional public events.

Staff are undertaking the following alternatives:

- Additional FAQ materials will be posted online to respond to those questions raised by community groups and at public open houses.
- The opportunity for public feedback would be extended to enable further responses.
- As already planned, staff will create a consultation summary that can be reviewed by members of the Public and Council.
- Public input would otherwise come as part of the Public Hearing process for adoption of the new zoning schedules.

As the timeline for the emergency response to the pandemic evolves, staff will keep the public apprised of the timelines for this important work, including specific extensions to deadlines for public input. This information will be posted on the City's website, and notification will be sent out to the list serve of interested residents that have been involved in the process to date. At this point, we can confirm that Public Hearings initially scheduled for late May will be delayed into June 2020 at the earliest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gil Kelley', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gil Kelley, FAICP  
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability  
604.873.7456 | [gil.kelley@vancouver.ca](mailto:gil.kelley@vancouver.ca)