

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

Date: 9/6/2023 10:08:00 AM

Subject: Memo - Corner Stores and More: upcoming community engagement on small-scale shops and services in residential areas

Attachments: Memo to Mayor & Council - Memo - Corner Stores and More, upcoming community engagement on small-scale shops and services in residential areas.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached a memo from Theresa O'Donnell regarding our upcoming engagement on corner stores.

In summary:

- In 2021, Council approved a series of quick start updates to the Zoning and Development Bylaw to better support existing and new corner stores. The changes removed restrictions on new businesses operating under the Neighbourhood Grocery Store land use category.
- Our upcoming engagement (Sept-Oct) builds on this work, and invites participants to share ideas on the types of shops and services (beyond Neighbourhood Grocery Stores) they would like to see in residential areas, as well as considerations related to the location and types of buildings, and opportunities for outdoor and adjacent public space.
- The present engagement process will inform policy and regulatory changes that will be brought to Council in 2024. The work advances policy objectives of both the Vancouver Plan and the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Any questions can be directed to Theresa.O'Donnell@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

September 5, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Interim Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Neil Hrushowy, Director, Community Planning Division
Chris Robertson, Director, Citywide and Regional Planning Division

FROM: Theresa O'Donnell
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Memo - Corner Stores and More: upcoming community engagement on small-scale shops and services in residential areas

RTS #: N/A

This memo provides details on our upcoming community engagement activities related to corner stores and other small-scale shops and services in residential areas.

Background

In 2021, Council approved a series of "quick start" updates to the Zoning and Development Bylaw to better support existing and new corner stores. The changes removed restrictions on new businesses operating under the Neighbourhood Grocery Store land use category, and created greater consistency in the residential allowances associated with corner store buildings. This was the first stage of work. This memo focuses on the second phase, now being initiated after Vancouver Plan adoption.

Community Engagement

Our upcoming engagement work builds on the initial quick starts and explores more substantive ways to support small-scale shops and services in residentially-zoned areas. Under the broad

mandate of advancing complete and connected neighbourhoods, the present engagement will gather community feedback on:

- The types of shops and services (beyond Neighbourhood Grocery Stores) residents would like to see in corner store spaces,
- Considerations related to the location and types of buildings associated with these businesses,
- Opportunities for outdoor and adjacent public space.

Engagement and outreach will consist of an online survey, a media release and promotional postcard, and a series of pop-up engagement activities. An additional mapping feature will allow participants to share their favourite corner store memories and reflections. The overall initiative is due to launch on September 7, 2023, with engagement activities available at <https://shapeyourcity.ca/corner-stores>. Later in the fall, a series of follow-up focus groups with key stakeholders, including business owners, builders, and BIAs, will also take place.

Input from the engagement process will help to inform both future policy and regulatory changes specific to corner stores in residential areas, as well as the implementation of Vancouver Plan Neighbourhood Centres and Villages across the city.

Should you have any questions related to the engagement process, please do not hesitate to contact Theresa.O'Donnell@vancouver.ca.



Theresa O'Donnell
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability
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Further Information:

1. City of Vancouver. Employment Lands and Economy Review Quick Start Actions: Initial Zoning and Development By-law Amendments to Support Neighbourhood Grocery Stores. Council Report. (Public Hearing: January 21, 2021). Link: <https://council.vancouver.ca/20210121/documents/rr1d.pdf>
2. City of Vancouver. Corner Stores in 21st Century Vancouver: Achieving Complete Communities and Food-Friendly Neighbourhoods. Council Motion. (Approved June 24, 2020). <https://council.vancouver.ca/20200624/documents/pspc5.pdf>