



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 12, 2024

### **Vancouver City Council Celebrates Major Wins for a more Vibrant, More Sustainable, and Greener City**

VANCOUVER, BC - This week, Vancouver City Council took significant steps to create a more vibrant, sustainable and greener city, advancing key initiatives that directly benefit Vancouverites.

“This Council is dedicated to delivering for the people of Vancouver,” said Mayor Ken Sim. “Together, we’re creating a vibrant, greener, more inclusive, and downright awesome city for all who live, work and play here.”

#### **Growing Vancouver's Tree Canopy**

In a unanimous decision, Council prioritized the expansion of Vancouver's tree canopy, ensuring greener and healthier neighbourhoods. An amendment introduced by Councillor Rebecca Bligh, was passed to urgently apply for funding from the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) to accelerate tree planting across Vancouver. Additionally, Council directed City staff to collaborate with external organizations to boost programs like tree giveaways, ensuring every neighbourhood can benefit from a greener Vancouver.

#### **Revitalizing Chinatown**

Council approved the Chinatown Cultural District Framework, marking an exciting milestone in the revitalization of this historic neighbourhood. This framework is designed to preserve cultural heritage, support local businesses, and increase housing and services in the area. This initiative will help breathe new life into Chinatown, celebrating its rich history while fostering a vibrant community.

#### **Building a More Sustainable City**

Addressing Vancouver's housing challenges head-on, Council passed measures to increase the height allowances for mass timber buildings. Councillor Lisa Dominato advanced this initiative further by advocating for participation in the Zero Emission Innovation Centre's Offsite Wood Construction Early Adopter Program. Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung also moved an amendment pushing for greater alignment of Mass Timber regulations with those of senior levels of government. These steps will expedite

construction and expand housing capacity, providing sustainable housing options for more Vancouverites.

Council also approved the Terms of Reference for the Vancouver Official Development Plan By-law (ODP), a key action under the new provincial requirement and the Vancouver Plan. This interim city-wide plan, to be adopted by June 2026, will guide land use and development potential across Vancouver, including housing, ecology, and infrastructure needs. The ODP aims to streamline processes, remove red tape, and accelerate housing delivery for all Vancouverites.

### **Supporting Local Breweries**

In a move to support local businesses, Council voted to temporarily suspend enforcement of the maximum permitted floor areas for local breweries. This decision allows more space for residents and visitors to enjoy Vancouver's local craft beer scene, providing an immediate boost to these local businesses. By making this temporary adjustment while working on long-term policy solutions, Council is ensuring that Vancouver's local breweries can thrive and continue to be a vibrant part of the community.

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