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**Mayor Ken Sim Delivers Affordability-Focused
Reforms to Lower Housing and Energy Costs**

VANCOUVER, B.C. – Vancouver City Council today passed Mayor Ken Sim’s motion to lower costs for Vancouverites by restoring consumer choice, cutting duplicative regulations, and stopping new local penalties that would have driven up housing and energy costs across the city.

At a time when families are struggling with rising housing costs, energy bills, and everyday expenses, Council voted to remove local rules that would have added even more costs onto renters, strata owners, homeowners, and businesses.

“Poll after poll shows the same thing: public safety and affordability are the defining issues facing Vancouverites,” said Ken Sim. “People want a City Hall that understands that reality and acts on it. Today, Council made a choice: lower costs, more flexibility, and less red tape.”

The motion stops the Energize Vancouver carbon tax before it could impose new costs on older apartment and office buildings beginning in 2027. These costs would be passed directly onto renters and strata owners through higher rents and fees. Council additionally directed work to align Vancouver’s standalone building by-law with the BC Building Code used across the rest of the province, reducing duplication, delays, and unnecessary construction costs.

Mayor Sim said Vancouver cannot continue adding local regulatory costs in the middle of a housing affordability crisis.

“For too long, City Hall has treated affordability like a slogan instead of a priority,” said Mayor Sim. “Every extra rule, every added delay, and every layer of bureaucracy gets passed directly onto the people trying to afford rent, buy a home, or keep a small business alive in this city.”

Today’s motion also aligns Vancouver directly with the direction being set by Prime Minister Mark Carney and other senior levels of government, which have increasingly emphasized affordability, flexibility, consumer choice, and reducing unnecessary barriers that drive up costs for Canadians.

Four councillors voted against the motion.

“Today’s vote drew a very clear line,” said Mayor Sim. “Seven members of council voted to focus on affordability and lowering costs for residents. Four voted to keep policies that would make Vancouver more expensive. Vancouverites can decide for themselves which approach reflects the reality people are living every day.”