



## **RENTERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**March 17, 2021**

A meeting of the Renters Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at 5:45 pm, by electronic means.

**PRESENT:** Matt Damario, Co-Chair  
Jacint Simon, Co-Chair  
Taylor Fleming, Vice-Chair  
Anne Vavrik

**ABSENT:** Megan Morrow – Leave of Absence  
Melissa Penner

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Pete Fry, Council Liaison  
Jennifer Hales, Social Planner, Homelessness Services  
and Affordable Housing Programs, Staff Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Irina Dragnea, Meeting Coordinator

### **WELCOME**

Matt Damario, Co-Chair, acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and we thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

### **Leave of Absence Requests**

MOVED by Taylor Fleming  
SECONDED by Jacint Simon

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approves a leave of absence for Megan Morrow, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2021**

MOVED by Taylor Fleming  
SECONDED by Jacint Simon

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of January 27, 2021, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 1. Roundtable Committee Catch-up

The Committee members and staff introduced themselves via roundtable.

### 2. Broadway Plan Phase 2 Emerging Directions Engagement Workshop

Jessie Singer, Planner, Housing Policy, provided a presentation on the emerging directions of the Broadway Plan Phase 2, and along with Chris Mah and Clementine Montuelle, Planners, Housing Policy, and John Grottenberg, Lead Planner, Broadway Plan, responded to questions and received feedback in a workshop format.

The project hub can be found here: <https://shapeyourcity.ca/vancouver-plan-housing>

### 3. Liaison Updates

Councillor Pete Fry, Council Liaison, discussed the following items:

- The [Public Hearing of March 11, 2021, reconvening on April 1, 2021](#):
  - Debate and decision on Item 2 - Extension of the Rental Housing Stock Official Development Plan to Require Rental Replacement in C-2, C-2B, C-2C, and C-2C1 Commercial Districts;
  - Starting Item 3 - Amendment to Downtown Official Development Plan – Area K3 (Granville Street);
- Council approved CD-1 Rezoning: 3084 West 4th Avenue and 2010 Balaclava Street, at the [Public Hearing of February 11, 16, 23, 24, March 2 and 4, 2021](#); and
- Upcoming [Public Hearing of April 15, 2021](#):
  - [Item 4 - Amendments to the Zoning and Development By-law to Increase Social Housing in the RM-4 and RM-3A Zoning Districts.](#)

Jennifer Hales, Staff Liaison, provided updates on the following items:

- Council approved the staff report entitled “2021 Renter Services Grants,” at the [Council meeting on March 9, 2021](#);
- The addition of new staff to support renter services at the City; and
- Engagement on upcoming community based Renter Centre run by the City.

### 4. Co-Chairs/Vice-Chair Updates

Taylor Fleming, Vice-Chair, noted that City staff will be sending out an invitation to all Committees to join an update session regarding the work undertaken to-date with respect to the COVID-19 racist incident response, and encouraged all RAC Committee members to attend.

Matt Damario, Co-Chair, provided a brief update on the Mayor’s Motion entitled “Protecting Tenants - Taking Action Against Renovictions”, approved by Council in October 2020, and noted that staff are tentatively scheduled to bring a report back to Council sometime April 2021. Additionally, Matt noted that the Province has extended the rent freeze until July 10, 2021.

Jacint Simon, Co-Chair, noted that the Province also announced that B.C. income and disability assistance will increase by \$175 per month.

**5. Legislative Changes to the Provincial Residential Tenancy Act**

Matt Damario, Co-Chair, noted that the Province announced potential legislative changes to the *BC Residential Tenancy Act*, including protections for renovations. Matt asked the Committee to monitor the new changes and advise of any gaps in these new changes.

**6. New Business**

**(a) Motion to Send Letter to Vancouver City Council**

MOVED by Taylor Fleming  
SECONDED by Jacint Simon

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approve a letter be sent to the Mayor and Council in regards to the referral report entitled "Amendments to the Zoning and Development By-law to Increase Social Housing in the RM-4 and RM-3A Zoning Districts", going to Public Hearing on April 15, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Jacint Simon  
SECONDED by Matt Damario

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 7:25 pm.

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