# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WHITE ROCK

15322 BUENA VISTA AVENUE, WHITE ROCK, B.C. V4B 1Y6

# **MEETING NOTICE**

Pursuant to the *Community Charter* a **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING** has been called to begin at **4:00 P.M.** on **MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021**.

DATE: MEETING TIME: LOCATION: MAY 3, 2021 4:00 P.M. WHITE ROCK COUNCIL CHAMBERS 15322 BUENA VISTA AVE., WHITE ROCK BC V4B 1Y6

#### PURPOSE: Impacts/ Considerations due to COVID-19 Pandemic Vice-Chairperson to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee

- COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures Waterfront
- Appointment to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (Vice Chairperson 2021 / Chairperson 2022)

The City of White Rock is committed to the health and safety of our community. In keeping with Health Minister Orders of British Columbia, City Council meetings will take place without the public in attendance at this time until further notice.

Date: April 30, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Sother.

Tracey Arthur, Director of Corporate Administration



www.whiterockcity.ca

The Corporation of the CITY OF WHITE ROCK



# Special Meeting of Council AGENDA

# Monday, May 3, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

# **City Hall Council Chambers**

# 15322 Buena Vista Avenue, White Rock, BC, V4B 1Y6

\*Live Streaming/Telecast: Please note that all Committees, Task Forces, Council Meetings, and Public Hearings held in the Council Chamber are being recorded and broadcasted as well included on the City's website at: www.whiterockcity.ca

The City of White Rock is committed to the health and safety of our community. In keeping with Ministerial Order No. M192 from the Province of British Columbia, City Council meetings will take place without the public in attendance at this time until further notice.

T. Arthur, Director of Corporate Administration

Pages

# 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. MOTION TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING WITHOUT THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

> RECOMMENDATION WHEREAS COVID-19 has been declared a global pandemic;

WHEREAS the City of White Rock has been able to continue to provide the public access to the meetings through live streaming;

WHEREAS holding public meetings in the City Hall Council Chambers, where all the audio/video equipment has been set up for the live streaming program, would not be possible without breaching physical distancing restrictions due to its size, and holding public meetings at the White Rock Community Centre would cause further financial impact to City Operations due to staffing resources and not enable live streaming;

WHEREAS Ministerial Orders require an adopted motion in order to hold public meetings electronically, without members of the public present in person at the meeting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes the City of White Rock to hold the May 3, 2021 Special Council meeting to be video streamed and available on the City's website, and without the public present in the Council Chambers.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Corporation of the City of White Rock Council adopt the agenda for its special meeting scheduled for May 3, 2021 as circulated.

#### 4. COVID-19 PROPOSED PREVENTION MEASURES - WATERFRONT

Corporate report dated May 3, 2021 from the Fire Chief titled "COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures - Waterfront".

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receives this report for discussion on potential COVID-19 community safety prevention measures that may be considered for implementation on the waterfront.

#### 5. VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR THE ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION THAT Council endorse the following appointment for Vice-Chairperson for the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (2021-2022 Committee Term):

Committee

Chairperson

Vice-Chairperson

Arts and Cultural Councillor Advisory Committee Kristjanson

**Councillor Manning** 

<u>Note</u>: As per the Terms of Reference, positions for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson would switch between the two (2) Council members January 2022.

6. CONCLUSION OF THE MAY 3, 2021 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WHITE ROCK CORPORATE REPORT



DATE: May 3, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Ed Wolfe, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures Waterfront

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council receives this report for discussion on potential COVID-19 community safety prevention measures that may be considered for implementation on the waterfront.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The primary purpose of this report is to provide Council with options for consideration that would further support the recommendations of the Public Health Officer and help reduce the transmission and spread of the COVID-19 virus. Following Council's direction, staff have generated options with a focus on communications, waterfront access and limiting public parking.

PREVIOUS	<b>COUNCIL</b>	DIRECTION

Motion # & Meeting Date	Motion Details
April 12, 2021	Council direct staff to report what measures the City should put
2021-204	in place, if any, to help address keeping with Health Orders during the pandemic at the waterfront.
	CARRIED
April 19, 2021	THAT Council directs staff to develop comprehensive
2021-217	communications plan including the following: LED signs at the waterfront, replacement of missing COVID related signage at the waterfront, website update, social media posts - Twitter, Facebook, information for staff, news release,
	Facebook/Instagram advertising, information for
	community partners, signage on site, banner at the Pier arch. CARRIED
April 19, 2021 2021-218	THAT Council endorses the following: Adjustment of the bylaw staff schedule to allow for more flexibility with hours to assist with enforcement efforts (shifts to be adjusted to reflect coverage of the busiest days and times - typically weekend afternoons and evenings); and Hire additional Bylaw Enforcement Officers - casual position(s) CARRIED

April 19, 2021	THAT Council endorse staff to initiate communications with
2021-219	Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) police regarding the
2021 217	need for uniformed officers from their organization to assist
	with enforcement efforts along with railway and initiate
	communication with the province for enforcements at the
	beach.
	CARRIED
April 19, 2021	THAT Council directs a statement be issued by the City that the
2021-221	following options are not being considered by Council at this
	time, subject to Provincial Health Orders: Fence off the entire
	Promenade in order to keep people from using the Promenade;
	and Closure of waterfront parking lots; and Closure of the Pier.
	CARRIED
April 19, 2021	THAT Council endorses there be a request made of the
2021-222	Province that they consider the City of White Rock for a
	community vaccination program.
	CARRIED
April 26, 2021	THAT Council approves changing Marine Drive to a one way
2021-231	and ask staff to bring forward options as to how best to do this.
Amil 26, 2021	DEFEATED
April 26, 2021	THAT staff be directed to bring forward a corporate report, to a Special Council meeting to be held on May 3, 2021, that
2021-230	outlines possible closure of the promenade, some parking lots
	with some parking lots to be made available for residents only;
	and there be strong messaging that White Rock is closed to
	visitors.
	CARRIED

# INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

COVID-19 cases in the Fraser Health region are the highest in the province and the Provincial Health Officer is recommending the public to stay home and remain in your neighborhood. White Rock is a destination community that attracts many visitors to the waterfront and beach, especially with the restrictions imposed to reduce viral transmission during the pandemic. In support of the Provincial Health Officer's recommendations and to promote the health and safety of White Rock residents, staff have generated a list of options focusing on communications, waterfront access and limiting public parking for Council consideration, following Council's direction, to try and reduce or limit visitation to the City's waterfront at a critical time during the pandemic.

# FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost to deliver a stronger, comprehensive communications and messaging plan would be approximately \$2100. In addition, any closures of parking at the waterfront will result in lost

COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures Waterfront Page No. 3

revenues, depending on the combination of closed lots. Lost revenues from parking can be recovered, as it qualifies through the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed COVID-19 prevention measures, if implemented along the waterfront, may impact public access, and therefore impact local businesses and potentially prompt responses from residents that had prepaid for parking passes.

#### INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS

The Engineering and Municipal Operations Department along with Planning and Development Services, Financial Services and Fire Services have worked together to provide options outlined in this report.

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Not applicable.

# **OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES**

The following options are available for Council's consideration:

- 1. Through Motion Number 2021-217, Council directed staff to develop a comprehensive communication plan that includes signage, media relations, social media, information for staff and community partners and a website update. Those communication methods will be used to convey any significant changes to residents, businesses, and visitors.
- 2. Fence off the entire Promenade. The estimated timeframe to implement a closure of the promenade would be one week, dependent upon contractor availability. The cost would be approximately \$30K depending on the extent of the closure.
- 3. Closure of select parking lots. This could be accomplished using large water filled barriers for the closures, as they are difficult to move. A rough estimate of closure costs is \$10K that would increase over time depending on required barrier and signage maintenance. Costs would be recoverable through the COVID-19 Safe Restart Program. Select closed parking lots would potentially provide space to incorporate additional seating that may assist in accommodating restaurant takeout business.

The following table provides a legend for the waterfront parking lots that correspond to the maps shown below. For each lot, the number of spaces and the average monthly parking revenue has been provided. Council may want to decide to close any combination of lots depending on the desired outcome. Any lot closures will require a change in signage and will depend on the direction provided. Council may wish to change the time restriction for the onstreet parking stalls.

	# OF SPACES	AVG. MONTHLY REVENUE
LOT A	48	\$7,400
LOT B	72	\$6,100
LOT C	87	\$15,600
LOT D	84	\$34,100
LOT E	112	\$58,100
LOT F	25	\$14,600
PARKADE	186	\$11,800
LOT G	63	\$18,600
LOT H	40	\$15,100
LOT I	44	\$12,500
LOT J	10	\$4,300

# WATERFRONT PARKING LOT REVENUES - AVERAGED OVER MAY-JULY 2019 PERIOD

# West Beach Lots



#### East Beach Lots



- 4. Close the West Beach Parkade. The timeline to implement a closure would be immediate with no additional cost, but a loss of revenue.
- 5. Initiate communication with Semiahmoo First Nation to consider a partial or full closure of their public parking lot.

COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures Waterfront Page No. 6

# **CONCLUSION**

The popularity of White Rock as a destination community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic and desire to be outdoors has resulted in regular crowding on the waterfront. The influx of people to the community during the pandemic creates additional risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission. In support of the Public Health Officer's recommendations and to protect the health and safety of White Rock residents, following Council's direction, staff have generated a list of COVID-19 prevention measures with a focus on communications, waterfront access and limiting public parking. Potential prevention measures included in this report are for Council's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

#### **Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

This corporate report is provided for Council's consideration.

Guillermo Ferrero Chief Administrative Officer

- Appendix A: City of White Rock Corporate Report; COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures April 19, 2021
- Appendix B: West Beach Parking Lots
- Appendix C: East Beach Parking Lots

# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WHITE ROCK CORPORATE REPORT



**DATE:** April 19, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Ed Wolfe, Fire Chief

#### SUBJECT: COVID-19 Proposed Prevention Measures

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council receives this report for discussion on potential COVID-19 community safety prevention measures that may be considered for implementation on the waterfront.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The primary purpose of this report is to provide Council with options for consideration that would support the recommendations of the Public Health Officer and help reduce the transmission or spread of the COVID-19 virus.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

Motion # &	Motion Details	
Meeting Date		
#TBD, April 12, 2021	Council direct staff to report what measures the City should put in	
Regular Council	place, if any, to help address keeping with Health Orders during the	
Meeting	pandemic at the waterfront.	

# INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 cases in the Fraser Health region are the highest in the province and the Provincial Health Officer is advising the public to stay home and remain in your neighborhood. White Rock is a destination community that attracts many visitors to the waterfront and beach especially with the restrictions imposed to reduce viral transmission during the pandemic. In support of the Provincial Health Officer's recommendations and to promote the health and safety of White Rock residents, staff have generated a list of options for Council consideration, following Council's direction, to try and reduce or limit visitation to the City's waterfront at a critical time during the pandemic.

# FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost to deliver a stronger, comprehensive communications and messaging plan would be approximately \$2100. In addition, any closures of parking at the waterfront will result in lost revenues of up to \$95K per month, depending on the combination of closed lots. Lost revenues from parking can be recovered as it qualifies through the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant.

# Fragge 31 off 139

# LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

# **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed COVID-19 prevention measures, if implemented along the waterfront, may impact public access, and therefore impact local businesses or prompt responses from residents that had prepaid for parking passes or experiencing changes to traffic patterns along other routes.

#### INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS

The Engineering and Municipal Operations Department along with Planning and Development, Human Resources, Finance, Recreation and Culture, Communications, RCMP and Fire have worked together to explore options that are included in this report.

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

# ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Not applicable.

# **OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES**

The following options are available for Council's consideration:

- 1. Develop a comprehensive communications plan. Communication would be an integral part of any significant change. Some potential communication approaches include:
  - LED signs at the Waterfront (1 day).
  - Website update (1 day).
  - Social media posts Twitter, Facebook (1 day).
  - Information for staff (1 day).
  - News release (2 days).
  - Facebook/Instagram advertising (2 days).
  - Information for community partners (2 days).
  - Signage on site (if new, 5-7 days).
  - Ad in Peace Arch News (5-7 days).
  - Banner at the Pier arch (5-7 days).
- 2. Fence off the entire Promenade. The estimated timeline to implement this would be one week and dependent upon contractor availability. The cost would be approximately \$30K depending on the extent of the closure. Fencing would only be necessary if people are to be kept off the Promenade.
- 3. Close parking lots. This would be accomplished with concrete barriers and the timeline to implement this would be one week with an approximate cost of \$5K, recoverable through the COVID-19 Safe Restart Program.
- 4. Create parking spaces specifically for the pickup of takeout in designated lots adjacent to restaurants.
- 5. Limit waterfront parking lots to White Rock residents with parking decals only.

- 6. Reserve a parking lot for restaurant patrons only. Restaurants would issue temporary passes that patrons would display on their vehicles while dining in the restaurant.
- 7. Fencing off specific problematic areas including areas in front of restaurants where lineups occur.
- 8. Close the Pier. The timeline to implement a closure would be one day with limited cost.
- 9. Installation of additional signage. Some signs are available within current inventory and would take one week to implement.
- 10. Close Marine Drive. Physical barriers would be required with one week to install, along with detour signage and communication. It may be possible for some of the signage from the Marine Drive Hump Stabilization Project to be utilized. There would be considerable impact to residents along the detour routes of Columbia and Victoria. In addition, emergency response access would be required.
- 11. Marine Drive be designated to one way traffic only as was done during the Marine Drive Hump Stabilization Project. The unused lane could be offered to local businesses to expanded patio services, as what was carried out by the community of Deep Cove. Since parking lanes are not part of existing sidewalk use licences, a bylaw may be required to allow liquor consumption in these public areas if the direction is to allow restaurants to use this space for takeout liquor service and consumption.
- 12. Close the West Beach Parkade. The timeline to implement this would be immediate with no additional cost, other than loss of revenue.
- 13. Hiring private security to help with enforcement efforts. Private security would not have the ability to issue fines for public health order violations. While their presence may potentially deter COVID-19 non-compliance, any issuance of fines would still require an RCMP member. The approximate cost for private security is \$250 per 8-hour shift, per guard or \$1000 a week for two guards working two days for eight hours. This option is not recommended as communication around conduct and performance must take place through the employer rather than the individual.
- 14. Initiate communication with Semiahmoo First Nation to consider a partial or full closure of their public parking lot.
- 15. Add one or more additional RCMP officers on the weekends dedicated to the waterfront and to conduct proactive COVID-19 safety checks, assist bylaw officers when required and have a general uniformed presence in the area. Cost for two days of coverage is \$1600 per officer. Recommendation is two officers be utilized for safety reasons while on foot patrol in dense crowds at a cost of approximately \$3200 for two officers for two days.
- 16. Adjust the bylaw schedule to allow for more flexibility with hours to assist with enforcement efforts. There are three regular full-time Bylaw Enforcement Officers with shifts that cover the entire week. Bylaw Enforcement Officers do not have the authority to issue fines for non-compliance of public health orders. Shifts could be adjusted to reflect coverage of our busiest days and times (typically weekend afternoons and evenings).
- 17. Hire additional Bylaw Enforcement Officers. The recruiting for additional Bylaw Enforcement Officers would likely take 1-2 months with these positions currently being in high demand. The current draft Financial Plan includes approximately \$28,000 for casual Bylaw Enforcement Officers, who are used to cover vacation or absences. Some of the casual officers have other jobs and may not always be available. The City is currently recruiting for

a Bylaw Patroller level position that would specifically target afternoon and weekend hours and enforcement of the no dogs on the promenade. The Bylaw Patroller position is expected to be filled in May/June 2021 at the earliest.

- 18. Request the province consider the City of White Rock for community vaccination as other communities in the province. The popularity of our community as a destination has greatly increased our vulnerability.
- 19. Initiate communication with BNSF police regarding the need for uniformed officers from their organization to assist with enforcement efforts along the railway and initiate communication with the province for enforcement at the beach.

# **CONCLUSION**

The popularity of White Rock as a destination community particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic and desire to be outdoors has resulted in regular crowding on the waterfront. The influx of people in our community during the pandemic creates additional risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission. In support of the Public Health Officer's recommendations and to protect the health and safety of White Rock residents, following Council's direction, staff have generated a list of COVID-19 prevention measures included in this report for Council's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

E.J. Wole

Ed Wolfe Fire Chief

# **Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

The corporate report is provided for Council's consideration.

Guillermo Ferrero Chief Administrative Officer



#### APPENDIX C

