

Part A – See City Neighbourhood Liaison Kimberley Stratford’s Report

PART B – Councillor’s Report

Council Highlights – June 8, 2017

Council Highlights provide a snapshot of the progress made on City programs, initiatives and on Council decision-making. For more information on each initiative, please visit the accompanying link where noted. We welcome anyone who would like to receive *Council Highlights* to email us at engage@victoria.ca.

Rezoning Application for 149 Montreal Street

Following a public hearing and the completion of a covenant on operating hours, Council voted to allow this rezoning application which would allow the daycare at this location to increase the number of children to a maximum of 32.

[Learn more](#)

Victoria Housing Strategy – Minimum Unit Size

Minimum housing unit sizes have been reduced in five zones, creating a standard minimum unit size in multi-unit zones across the City. This change stemmed from an action in the Victoria Housing Strategy that originally aimed to remove minimum unit sizes in order to increase housing supply and diversity.

Fort Street Cycle Lanes

City Council approved the updated designs for the proposed protected bike lanes along Fort Street, including an amendment that will provide more parking in the 600 block of Fort Street than the original design. The new protected bike lanes will be constructed along Fort Street between Wharf Street and Cook Street with construction scheduled to start in September 2017.

913/923/929 Burdett Ave and 914/924 McClure Street

A rezoning application that would allow a 134 unit seniors residence (Mount St Angela) will proceed to Public Hearing. A date for the hearing has not yet been set.

[Learn more](#)

Dog’s Off Leash

Council directed staff to proceed with planning and implementation of the dog off-leash pilot projects for Fisherman’s Wharf Park (one year) and Oaklands Park (one year) in 2017.

Public Engagement Road Map

To make citizen engagement more convenient and predictable, a Public Engagement Road Map and Engagement Framework have been created and have been endorsed by Council.

[Learn more](#)

Council Highlights – June 22, 2017

Regulations for Short Term Rentals

Council is developing regulations for Short Term Rentals in order to address the rental housing shortage. Proposed changes include proactive enforcement of existing zoning and expanded business regulations for where Short Term Rentals are permitted, such as new license fees, operating rules, and fines for non-compliance.

Removal of Transient Zoning in Downtown Residential Buildings

In an effort to limit the impact of short term rentals on residential rental stock, Council is exploring amending the *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* to remove transient zoning downtown (where short term rental is currently permitted). Short term rentals in all residential dwellings would be limited to individual rooms in homes or condos, though other exemptions such as temporary use in whole dwelling units is also being explored. A public hearing will be required before any change to the bylaw.

Affordable Housing and Rental Retention Policy

In an effort to prevent the loss of existing affordable rental housing, Council has placed a six-month moratorium on rental housing demolition permits insofar as the City has legal authority to do so while staff complete a Market Rental Retention Study. The study is an action of the Victoria Housing Strategy that will explore potential policies, regulations, and incentives to upgrade existing rental stock while protecting tenants from displacement. Council has also directed staff to bring forward a budget amendment drawing on the 2017 contingency to fund this work in an expedited manner, including the option to hire a second housing planner on a contract basis.

Johnson Street Bridge Project Update

On June 15, Angus English from MMM presented to Council advising of a further delay in the opening of the Johnson Street Bridge. The bridge was scheduled to be opened by the end of 2017; however delays in steel fabrication have pushed the date the new bridge will be open to traffic to March 2018.

[Read the update](#)

Johnson Street Bridge Lessons Learned

Johnson Street Bridge Project Director Jonathan Huggett presented a preliminary “Lessons Learned” report on the Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project. The lessons learned offered advice and guidance around how the City of Victoria can improve the way in manages major infrastructure projects moving forward, such as the Crystal Pool replacement.

[Read the report](#)

Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre Project Update

Staff presented an update on the renewal project including project planning, design, engagement, funding opportunities and the project timeline. Council has directed staff to work with the North Park Neighbourhood Association to develop a Memorandum of

Understanding for the North Park use of the facility. Additionally, Council directed that 'Wellness' will replace 'Fitness' in the project name.

[Read the report](#)

Witness Reconciliation Program

The City Task Force formerly called the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC's) Calls to Action Task Force is now called the Witness Reconciliation Program. The program includes appointments to the City Family, which includes Mayor Lisa Helps, Councillor Marianne Alto, Councillor Charlayne Thornton-Joe, Brianna Dick of the Songhees Nation, Katie Hooper of the Esquimalt Nation, Carey Newman, Janice Simcoe and City staff representatives. Updates from the Witness Reconciliation Program will be presented to Council as part of the City's quarterly reporting process.

Rezoning Application for 986-988 Heywood Avenue

Following a public hearing Council has approved an application to rezone the property at 986-988 Heywood Ave to allow for the construction of a 4-storey residential building.

[Learn more](#)

Parklets and Sidewalk Cafés Bylaw

Council has asked staff to monitor potential noise issues related to sidewalk cafes over the next two years, and to amend the current bylaw by adjusting the fees to reflect the use of additional space for sidewalk café's that are using the adjacent parking stalls. Council also requested that following the conclusion of the Parklet Trial Installation, City staff prepare new bylaw regulations that would include a "2 for 1" parking spot deal for groups of businesses and residents that come together to develop a parklet.

UBCM Resolutions

Council has endorsed a number of resolutions to bring forward to the UBCM convention held this fall in Victoria, including:

- **Local Partnerships for Energy Efficiency Retrofits**, encouraging levels of government to partner and incentivize programs for property owners to save money and reduce the environment impact of buildings.
- **Optimizing Community Benefits of Forest Resources**, to improve the community benefits from forest resources while increasing legislation to protect drinking watersheds and biological diversity by adopting best practices in forest management from international jurisdictions.
- **Encouraging the Use of Residential Property for Housing**, encouraging the use of residential property to be used to provide housing through effective fiscal and taxation tools. This would also discourage market distortions such as speculation, "flipping," and commodity investment that contribute toward a sharp escalation in the price of housing.

- **Provincial Share of Infrastructure Spending** requesting the Provincial government to match the Federal government's percentage of spending on infrastructure projects.

PART C – Miscellanea

Enjoy Summer Activities and Outdoor Concerts at Centennial Square and Beacon Hill Park

This summer, take the opportunity to enjoy free outdoor activities and concerts with family and friends at Centennial Square and the Cameron Bandshell in Beacon Hill Park.

CENTENNIAL SQUARE

Crafternoons in the Square

Join us for hands-on Crafternoons to learn how to create a beautiful fresh floral crown. All supplies are included in addition to a complimentary sparkling water and a sweet treat. Crafternoons are held on the second Tuesday of every month until September 12, 2017 from 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. at Centennial Square.

Board Games in the Square

On Sundays until September 4, 2017 from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. drop by Centennial Square to play giant-size chess and Scrabble.

Latin and Salsa Dancing

Learn salsa, merengue, mambo, bomba and more. No dance experience necessary. Latin Dancing is offered on most Wednesdays from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. until September 13, 2017 with host Ricky. Enjoy Salsa dancing on most Sundays until the end of August from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. with DJ Moises in Centennial Square.

Be Victorious: Fitness Series

Join November Project Victoria, the world's fastest-growing group in the global grassroots free fitness movement, for an hour of fierce, fun, open-to-anyone outdoor fitness! Enjoy free workouts on Mondays, June 19, July 17, August 14 and September 4 from noon – 1 p.m. in Centennial Square.

Djembe Hand Drumming

All ages and abilities are invited to participate in open-air djembe hand-drumming workshops on Fridays, June 9, 16, July 21, and August 4, 18, and 25 from noon – 1:15

p.m. in Centennial Square. Learn music ensemble and rhythm-layering techniques. Drums are supplied but space is limited so make sure to arrive early.

Ballroom Dancing in the Square

The Victoria Ballroom Dance Society presents Ballroom Dancing in the Square on Mondays, July 17, 24 and 31 and August 14, 21 and 28 from 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Learn different dances and then put your new steps to the test in the group dance following each lesson.

Summer in the Square Lunchtime Concerts

Join us Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. from July 4 to September 14, 2017 to enjoy live music at *Lunchtime Concerts in the Square*. Bring your lunch and some sunscreen and soak up some sun and tunes. From folk, world beat and jazz to baroque and blues, there's something for everyone. For concert schedule information: www.victoria.ca/summerinthesquare

Eventide Music Series

The *Eventide Music Series* offers live music in Centennial Square every Thursday night from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. from July 6 – August 17, 2017. The series features an eclectic mix of independent local and visiting musicians and artists. Themed nights range from folk, pop, indie-rock to hip-hop, funk, punk, electronic and experimental. Food trucks and a licensed beverage area complement these all-ages outdoor concerts in Centennial Square. The *Eventide Music Series* is presented by the City of Victoria in partnership with CFUV Community Campus Radio, with support from the Downtown Victoria Business Association. For schedule information: www.eventidevictoria.com/schedule

CAMERON BANDSHELL AT BEACON HILL PARK

Garden City Harmony

Sing pop, indie, folk and rock songs in simple two, three or four-part harmony. No auditions or previous choir experience needed. Free choir sessions are offered on Wednesdays, June 7 and 21, July 5 and 19, and August 2, 16 and 30 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Cameron Bandshell.

Argentine Tango

Learn the Argentine Tango with a free beginner lesson from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. and a social dance that follows on Saturdays, June 10, July 29, August 26 and September 9 at the Cameron Bandshell.

Children's Programming

On Wednesdays from July 12 to August 16 from 11 a.m. – noon, the Cameron Bandshell will feature a different children's show, from juggling and story time to music and princesses. Bring the sunscreen, a picnic and get ready to laugh! For details go to: www.victoria.ca/concertsinthepark

Fresh Air: Writers in the Park

Join Victoria Poet Laureate Yvonne Blomer on Sundays, August 27 and September 10 from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. for poetry and crafts. Enjoy readings by published poets, followed by a short writing activity and an opportunity to share new work at the open mic.

Afternoon Concerts in the Park

Join us Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays from 1:30 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. from July 7 – September 11, 2017 for the Concerts in the Park series. Spread out a picnic blanket on the lawn or relax on bench seating while enjoying the performances. Whether you like folk, jazz or blues, classical or swing, there's something for everyone. For schedule information: www.victoria.ca/concertsinthepark.

Folk Music Evening Series

Returning for its second year, the *Folk Music Evening Series* takes place on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. from July 11 – August 22, 2017. This music series focuses on the wide genre of folk music, from traditional to fusion and contemporary. Each Tuesday will feature two different Canadian bands. For schedule information: www.victoria.ca/concertsinthepark.

All events and concerts are rain or shine and are subject to change. For event details, pick up a copy of *CityVibe, Victoria's Guide to Festivals and Events* at Victoria City Hall and venues around town, or view the guide online at: www.victoria.ca/cityvibe.

Mobile Food Vendors Roll onto Victoria Streets this Summer

Starting July 7th, anyone interested in operating a mobile bicycle vending business in Victoria can apply for a business licence as part of a seasonal pilot program.

Mobile bicycle vendors will be permitted to sell ready-to-eat food including frozen treats, cold and hot beverages, baked goods and flowers as part of the pilot taking place this summer and fall. Bicycle vendors will be able to operate on all city streets and almost all city parks for up to thirty minutes at a time, if hailed by a customer first.

Currently, under the existing Street Vendor Bylaw, no new mobile food vendors, including food trucks, carts and bicycles have been permitted to operate on City-owned property, except through a special event permit, as part of a larger event or festival.

The mobile bicycle vending pilot project is part of a larger review of street vending in Victoria, taking place over the next 18 months. The purpose of the review is to better address increasing demand for a variety of street vending activities, including mobile food vending. Lessons learned from the pilot will be used to inform regulations for all

types of food vending prior to Council considering any final changes to the existing Street Vendor Bylaw.

More information on the pilot program and process to obtain a business licence can be found at <http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/business/permits-licences/business-licences.html>

Draft Gonzales Plan comes to Committee of the Whole on July 13th

I thought you would all be interested in seeing a copy of the Draft Plan that will be before COTW on Thursday (I will bring hard copies with me on Monday)