

TO: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

DATE: 2018 December 05

FROM: MAYOR MIKE HURLEY

SUBJECT: **MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY HOUSING**

PURPOSE: To request Council approval for the creation of a Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing, and the Task Force Terms of Reference.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the creation of a Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing and its Terms of Reference, as outlined in Appendix A of the report.
2. **THAT** Council approve the appointment of Council members to the Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing, as identified in Section 4 of the report.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Housing affordability remains a significant issue across Metro Vancouver. Burnaby's Corporate Strategic Plan's Vision is that we are a world-class city committed to creating and sustaining the best quality of life for our entire community. As a rapidly growing city, the majority of our citizens continue to face significant housing affordability issues that challenge the achievement of our shared goals – economic, social and environmental sustainability. In the face of these challenges, the issue of housing affordability needs to be considered as a priority for Council and the City to better serve its citizens.

Many of Burnaby's citizens are experiencing significant challenges related to housing affordability that range from the high cost of housing, the low supply of affordable market and non-market rental housing, the lack of supply of a full-range of housing alternatives, the lack of supportive housing options and the challenge of reducing homelessness. These issues have had a negative impact on individual residents, businesses and the community as a whole. To address the broad issue of housing affordability and the specific issues facing Burnaby, it is necessary to immediately convene a Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing to review and advise Council on identified issues, priorities, and actionable solutions.

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In consideration of the immediate and urgent need to address matters related to affordable housing, the convening of a select committee of Council is being advanced as a priority initiative. This report includes the proposed Terms of Reference for the Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing and recommends Council appointments for consideration.

2.0 AUTHORITY

In accordance with the Community Charter (Division 4, Section 142), 'Select Committees of Council', Council may establish and appoint a Select Committee to consider or inquire into any matter and to report its findings and opinion to Council.

3.0 TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference, as outlined in Appendix A, will guide the core deliberations of the Task Force towards the preparation of an interim and final report that will include specific directions and recommendations for the consideration of Council.

4.0 TASK FORCE – COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENTS

In recognition that housing affordability is a complex issue that impacts a variety of stakeholders, the composition of the Task Force will be diverse, including representation from housing advocates, local unions, co-operative housing organizations, developers and builders. The following Council members are recommended for appointment to the Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing:

Councillor Pietro Calendino – Chair
Mayor Mike Hurley – Vice Chair
Councillor Sav Dhaliwal – Member

The remaining members of the Task Force will be contained within the committee appointment report in January 2019.

The Task Force will also seek out opportunities to collaborate and coordinate its deliberations with other cities and bodies pursuing similar engagements and efforts.

5.0 TIMELINE

It is anticipated that the Task Force will require 3 months to complete its deliberations for an interim report and 6 months for a final report to Council, with further work undertaken in future, as required.

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6.0 CONCLUSION

Burnaby continues to face significant and widespread housing affordability issues that challenge the City's ability to meet its stated and shared goals with the community. The proposed Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing will seek to advance Burnaby's response by providing advice and information to Burnaby City Council on innovative policies, directions and specific initiatives, within the City's jurisdiction, to increase the supply and diversity of affordable housing.

Through the adoption of this report, Council will approve the mandate for this select committee and the Council member appointments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Hurley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Mike Hurley

Copy:

City Manager
Director Corporate Services
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Planning and Building
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Director Public Safety and Community Services
City Solicitor
Chief Librarian
City Clerk

APPENDIX A



Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing Terms of Reference

1. Purpose:

To provide recommendations to Burnaby City Council on innovative policies, directions and specific initiatives, to increase the supply, diversity and affordability of housing in Burnaby.

2. Authority:

- [Community Charter, Part 5, Division 4, 142 \(Select Committees of Council\)](#)

3. Guiding Principles:

The Task Force will work to achieve its priorities with the following "Guiding Principles" that will ensure that efforts meet the need of Burnaby residents.

- 3.1 Ensure Burnaby provides opportunities for persons across all income levels, ages and abilities, to live and work in our City.
- 3.2 Recognize the importance of maintaining a diverse community and create a space where all are welcome.
- 3.3 Ensure that families of all sizes and types and needs have a place in Burnaby.
- 3.4 Ensure that new housing will strengthen neighbourhoods, bring people together, and build an even more sustainable community.
- 3.5 Work collaboratively with all levels of government, businesses and the community to achieve positive results.

4. Functions:

- 4.1 Examine the conditions that exist in Burnaby to create new affordable housing and protect existing affordable rental stock.
- 4.2 Look for opportunities to reduce the cost and timelines for smart, responsible development with the goal of saving people money and streamlining city processes.

- 4.3 Work towards achieving the right mix of housing to support each stage of family life for Burnaby's residents.
- 4.4 Support new and innovative housing forms, and create new policies and programs to benefit housing affordability.
- 4.5 Identify opportunities to work with senior levels of government and leverage available funding programs.
- 4.6 Identify municipal, provincial and federal regulatory barriers to housing affordability.
- 4.7 Facilitate broad consultation with the public, stakeholders and industry – seeking input on challenges and solutions.

5. Deliverables

- 5.1 Interim report to Council, identifying short term actions, and long term objectives towards housing affordability.
- 5.2 Final report outlining current state, future state, challenges, solutions and recommended implementation timelines.

6. Membership:

- 6.1. As per s. 142 of the Community Charter,

“(1) A council may establish and appoint a select committee to consider or inquire into any matter and to report its findings and opinion to the council.

(2) At least one member of a select committee must be a council member.

(3) Subject to subsection (2), persons who are not council members may be appointed to a select committee.”

- 6.2. Voting membership consists of representation from: housing advocates, Co-op housing organizations, the Burnaby Teachers Association, the BCGEU, developers and builders, as appointed by Council.
- 6.3. Membership term will end upon the approval of a Final Report by Council.

7. Meetings and Staff Support:

- 7.1. Task Force meeting will meet every other Wednesday (bi-weekly) and the estimated duration of the task force is 6 months. Additional meetings may be added at the request of the Chair.

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- 7.2. Committee meetings will be held in accordance with criteria outlined in Section 35 and 36 of the [Burnaby Procedure Bylaw 2004 \(Bylaw No. 11714\)](#).
- 7.3. Meeting procedures are regulated according to [Burnaby Procedure Bylaw 2004 \(Bylaw No. 11714\)](#).
- 7.4. The City Manager will be responsible for allocating staff resources as appropriate. The City Clerk will assign a Committee Secretary.

8. Reference Information

- 8.1. [Burnaby Procedure Bylaw 2004 \(Bylaw No. 11714\)](#)