



MOTION ON NOTICE

Providing More Parking for Bicycles & Vehicles Downtown

MOVER: Commissioner Shum

SECONDER: Commissioner Wiebe

WHEREAS:

1. The 2007-2021 Downtown South Public Benefits Strategy set a target to acquire and develop the 0.8-acre site at Smithe and Richards as a park to help meet the needs of a growing population in the area, and the City of Vancouver purchased the site in 1997;
2. The site is currently used as a Park Board surface pay parking facility, operated by EasyPark, with the intention of continuing this use until park construction begins;
3. There is a lack of public parking for the downtown area, and off-street surface parking spaces are becoming more rare in the City of Vancouver as sites become sought after for development;
4. Car share programs such as Car2Go, Modo, Evo, and ZipCar are becoming increasingly popular transportation options in Vancouver and these programs require convenient areas in which to park cars;
5. Electric vehicles are becoming more common, increasing the need for parking spaces with electric charging infrastructure;
6. In June 2015, Vancouver City Council approved a motion, moved by Councillor George Affleck, to add 1,000 new secure bicycle parking spaces in the downtown area and to explore co-location opportunities and options for partnerships that could be pursued by the City of Vancouver;
7. Concepts for the park at Smithe and Richards are being prepared for presentation and public consultation in early 2016.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT staff report back to the Vancouver Park Board, prior to public consultation, on the new Smithe and Richards park site, on the revenue generation, capital costs, and the park impacts associated with constructing and operating an underground vehicle and bicycle parking facility beneath the Smithe and Richards park location; and
- B. FURTHER THAT staff report on possible funding arrangements and partnerships available to the Park Board to construct and operate an underground vehicle and bicycle pay parking facility at the Smithe and Richards park site, including those that require no capital cost to the Park Board or to the City of Vancouver.