



Ensuring Public Access to Privately-Owned Public Spaces (“POPS”)

Excerpted from Minutes 2018-09-17

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

Amendments (removing ‘A’) MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung

Final motion as amended:

WHEREAS:

1. Privately-Owned Public Spaces (“POPS”) are provided by developers in exchange for bonuses with the intent that these spaces will be fully accessible to the public;
2. POPS can play an important role in expanding much-needed public space and green space and enhancing our public realm;
3. There are concerns that POPS may not always be welcoming or fully accessible to the public.
4. The Vancouver Seniors Advisory Committee unanimously passed the following motion at its regular meeting on July 20, 2018:
 - 1) In 2013, Vancouver City Council approved the Age-friendly Action Plan and the City’s intention to seek recognition from the World Health Organization as a “Global Age-friendly City;”
 - 2) Key features of an age-friendly city are adequate, safe, and accessible public spaces designed for relaxation and social activity;
 - 3) The Seniors’ Advisory Committee recently published a report (www.seniorsloneliness.ca) underscoring the role that such spaces play in preventing social isolation and loneliness; and
 - 4) Developers are often required to provide such spaces for public use as a condition of rezoning;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Seniors’ Advisory Committee recommend that Council direct staff to:

- a. Seek a statutory right-of-way for all current and future privately-owned public spaces to ensure that they remain fully accessible to all members of the public;
 - b. Prohibit property managers from restricting or discouraging access to these spaces; and
 - c. Ensure that there is appropriate signage
5. The above-noted motion will be submitted to Vancouver City Council for consideration.
 6. The Vancouver Park Board’s mandate is to protect, advocate and champion for parks and green space across the city.



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to identify a list of POPS sites that may be under its care;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board explore steps to ensure sites under its care are welcoming and accessible to all including, but not limited to, signage; and
- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board indicate its willingness to work with the City to extend its signage program to POPS as may be beneficial, in order convey these are public spaces.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)