

## **Equipping Park Board Washrooms with Universally Accessible Changing Stations**

Excerpted from Minutes 2018-10-01

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MOVED by Commissioner Shum SECONDED by Commissioner Evans

## WHEREAS:

- 1. Young Vancouver families are struggling with housing affordability, exacerbated by rising taxes and fees, and many young people are considering leaving Vancouver to start families elsewhere.
- 2. The majority of Vancouver parents and caretakers have used a changing station.
- 3. Parents are more likely to visit facilities, venues, and businesses with baby changing stations.
- 4. Baby changing facilities are not universally available in City of Vancouver facilities, and in some cases are available only in women's washrooms.
- 5. Numerous public petitions and advocacy campaigns have called for hygienic changing facilities to be available to all parents.
- 6. In 2016, President Barack Obama signed into law the BABIES ACT, which required changing tables in all publicly accessible federal buildings in the United States, including both male and female washrooms.
- 7. With a typical change table costing \$300-400, private companies are increasingly recognizing both the importance and positive commercial impact of including universally accessible changing tables in their facilities.

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to review all Park Board owned restroom facilities, including all gender and accessible washroom facilities, with the goal that they be equipped with a child changing station.
- B. FURTHER THAT staff review the physical safety and sanitation of existing changing facilities and that where necessary such facilities are improved or replaced.
- C. FURTHER THAT the Park Board encourage City Council to undertake a similar initiative for all City facilities.

## CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY