



## Minutes of the meeting of the Public Health and Safety Committee

<b>Date</b>	April 04, 2022	2022-07
<b>Location</b>	Council Chambers, City Hall Deputy Mayor Kirk Cameron – Chair Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu – Vice-Chair	
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Mayor Laura Cabott Councillor Dan Boyd** Councillor Michelle Friesen Councillor Ted Laking Councillor Mellisa Murray	
<b>Absent</b>		
<b>Staff Present</b>	Jeff O'Farrell, Interim City Manager Valerie Braga, Director of Corporate Services Lindsay Schneider, Director of Corporate HR Krista Mroz, Acting Director of Community Services Mike Gau, Director of Development Services Tracy Allen, Director of Operations** Wendy Donnithorne, Manager of Legislative Services Doug Spencer, Manager Bylaw Services	
<b>Also Present</b>	Jason Everett, Fire Chief Keith Fickling, Regional Protection Manager, Wildland Fire Management Danielle Trudeau, Director of Emergency Measures Operations	

\*\* Indicates electronic participation

---

Your Worship, the Public Health and Safety Committee respectfully submits the following report:

### **1. Joint Emergency Preparedness Update – For Information Only**

The Committee was provided with an update and information on emergency measures planning. City of Whitehorse Fire Chief led a joint presentation with Yukon Government Wildland Fire Management and Emergency Measures Operations which included updates on Fire Smart, and flood forecasting and preparation noting that seasonal planning is currently underway.

The presentation provided a broad overview, noting that due to the broad and expansive requirements of responsibility for emergency measures planning and response, all Divisions within the City must contribute to this effort in the identification of significant risks, hazards and exposures within their areas of responsibility. Examples of risks requiring specific response / recovery plans may include critical water and sewer infrastructure, communications and network assets, transportation emergencies, health and safety related risks, etc. Natural and climate related emergencies along with threats external to the City but having an impact on our citizens require close coordination and integration with external partners.

It was highlighted that design and maintenance of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan along with supporting plans and the tools and processes necessary for effective operations undergo regular review to ensure processes are updated to accepted standards of today. In the event that an actual crisis does not occur requiring the activation of the Emergency Management Plan, then an annual review should occur to identify areas of improvement. In the event that the plan is activated, an After Action Review is conducted post-incident to identify areas of improvement from which updates are made.

It was stressed that regular training and testing of the Plan and processes are necessary to ensure that designated staff are familiar with their role and both assisting and cooperating agencies can easily merge and collaborate where required.

Members were provided additional information in response to questions around evacuation planning and communications, specific issues such as coordination between agencies for evacuation of schools and hospital, partnerships with First Nations for wildland fire, and current plans by Administration to increase capacity to coordinate Fire Smart activities and advance implementation of the City's Wildfire Risk Reduction Strategy. In addition, specific information on flood and fire risk based on snow and weather data would be coming from Yukon Government at the end of April.

## **2. Taxi Safety & Vehicle for Hire Bylaw Amendments**

The Committee was provided with a report from Administration and request for direction to advance bylaw amendments related to taxi safety, including stakeholder engagement.

For background, over the last two decades, the perception of passenger safety in taxis in Whitehorse, especially in relation to women and vulnerable persons, has been poor. In 2017, a taxi safety working group was struck to identify concerns and a list of recommendations was provided to the City. Many of the group's recommendations were adopted and incorporated into amendments made to the City's 2018 Vehicle for Hire Bylaw (VFH), including enhanced driver testing/training, a requirement for video recording equipment, as well as driver conduct provisions and owner accountabilities.

Taxi passenger safety has been reported on extensively in the media and in January 2022 the Yukon Women's Coalition released their Taxi Safety Report based on a survey of 174 respondents, including 160 identifying as women, and approximately 50 that identified as Indigenous. The Report highlighted negative experiences and perceptions

of the taxi industry and provided a number of specific recommendations to the City and to Bylaw Services specifically.

The Committee extensively discussed the proposed approach to potentially develop bylaw amendments to address taxi and passenger safety, including fleet requirements.

In response to questions from members, additional information was provided about the existing taxi safety working group, history of engagement including with the Yukon and Aboriginal Women's Coalitions and anticipated future meetings. It was further confirmed that Bylaw does not have an enforcement role in gender based violence or other criminal offenses. RCMP and Bylaw work together to share information, and Bylaw can revoke permits and issues fines based on their authority. It was also confirmed that Bylaw does not collect and keep security footage from taxis, rather the companies manage and store recordings, with Bylaw periodically checking to see that this is done.

Some members were concerned that advancing bylaw amendments including fleet improvements would take the focus off gender based and sexualized violence and women's safety issues, particularly Indigenous women, which should be the priority at this time. It was suggested that these types of safety issues could potentially be advanced more quickly than as part of a broader package dealing with overall fleet safety.

Other members noted the scope of work should remain broad; that fleet safety issues are also related to passenger safety issues, and stakeholder engagement should reflect the broader community. Taxi issues of safety and quality in the city are longstanding. They have impacts on the business community and can make for negative perceptions and impressions about the City on tourists and visitors. It was also noted that initial research to develop bylaw amendments to address fleet operations and improvements has already been done.

### **The recommendation of the Public Health and Safety Committee is**

That Council direct Administration to conduct further policy analysis and stakeholder engagement on potential bylaw amendments and program improvements focussed on addressing gender based violence and taxi safety for women, based on the recommendations of the Taxi Safety Report.



## Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Services Committee

<b>Date</b>	April 04, 2022	2022-07
<b>Location</b>	Council Chambers, City Hall Councillor Michelle Friesen – Chair Deputy Mayor Kirk Cameron – Vice-Chair	
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Mayor Laura Cabott Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu Councillor Dan Boyd** Councillor Ted Laking Councillor Mellisa Murray	
<b>Staff Present</b>	Jeff O’Farrell, Interim City Manager Valerie Braga, Director of Corporate Services Lindsey Schneider, Director of Corporate HR Krista Mroz, Acting Director of Community Services Mike Gau, Director of Development Services Tracy Allen, Director of Operations** Taylor Eshpeter, Manager of Engineering Services Wendy Donnithorne, Manager of Legislative Services	

\*\* Indicates electronic participation

---

Your Worship, the Corporate Services Committee respectfully submits the following report:

### **1. Budget Amendment – Lewes Boulevard Bus Lane**

The Committee was presented with a report requesting a budget amendment for the Lewes Boulevard Bus Lane project and to include necessary design and construction repair work on a valve chamber in the bus lane project for efficiency.

For background, it was noted that in effort to improve transit efficiency, reliability, and on-time performance, the City piloted a dedicated bus lane along Lewes Boulevard in 2018. The bus lane pilot extended along Lewes Boulevard from Teslin Road to a location just prior to Hospital Road in the northbound direction. The bus lane pilot was limited to pavement markings, temporary signage, and an extensive public communications

campaign. Based on feedback from the Transit Services department, the pilot project resulted in significant improvements to transit operations efficiency and reliability.

Based on the success of the pilot program, Administration began engineering design work to formalize permanent transit infrastructure along Lewes Boulevard. The majority of changes associated with the proposed transit priority infrastructure are located at the Lewes Boulevard and Hospital Road intersection. In addition to the dedicated bus lane, the project will include active transportation crossing and geometric improvements on the east approach of the intersection.

As part of the City's "Utility Stations and Force-main Condition Assessment" project currently underway, Administration learned the First River Crossing Valve Chamber had deteriorated to the point of requiring emergency repair of the top slab to mitigate risk to public safety. The chamber is located within the roadway of the Lewes Boulevard and Hospital Road intersection. Temporary bracing was installed to prevent short term failure of the structure, while options were considered.

Realizing that a long term solution for the chamber is required, various options were considered including coordination opportunities with existing projects underway to maximize project management and construction efficiencies. Given that the valve chamber is located within the proposed limits of construction for the bus lane project and the valve chamber's implications to its design, it was deemed most cost-effective and practical to include design and construction work for the valve chamber in the bus lane project rather than through a standalone project.

In response to questions of members, Administration confirmed that should additional budget be needed, the City can apply for further funds. It was also noted that a traffic and emergency traffic plan for the construction period will be developed with the contractor and could include review with hospital emergency operations. Communications for residents and those that regularly use the route are being planned.

**The recommendation of the Corporate Services Committee is**

THAT Council direct the 2022 – 2025 Capital Expenditure Program be amended by increasing the budget for the Lewes Boulevard Bus Lane project #240c01421 in the amount of \$400,000 funded from the Capital Reserve until an amended Canada Community Building Fund Transfer Payment Agreement has been approved.



## Minutes of the meeting of the City Planning Committee

<b>Date</b>	April 04, 2022	2022-07
<b>Location</b>	Council Chambers, City Hall Councillor Dan Boyd ** Councillor Ted Laking – Chair	
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Mayor Laura Cabott Deputy Mayor Kirk Cameron Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu Councillor Michelle Friesen Councillor Mellisa Murray	
<b>Staff Present</b>	Jeff O’Farrell, Interim City Manager Valerie Braga, Director of Corporate Services Lindsay Schneider, Director of Corporate HR Krista Mroz, Acting Director of Community Services Mike Gau, Director of Development Services Darcy McCord, Acting Manager of Land and Building Services Wendy Donnithorne, Manager of Legislative Services	

\*\* Indicates electronic participation

---

Your Worship, the City Planning Committee respectfully submits the following report:

### **1. Public Input Report – Conditional Use Application – 238 Tlingit Street**

The Committee was advised and provided information about an application that has been made to develop a light equipment sales/rentals operation with a 157 m<sup>2</sup> caretaker residence at 238 Tlingit Street. A caretaker residence larger than 120 m<sup>2</sup> is a conditional use in the First Nation Commercial Industrial Mixed (FN-CIM) zone, requiring a decision by Council.

A total of 26 letters were sent to property owners within a 100-meter radius of the site. Government of Yukon Land Client Services, Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) and Ta’an Kwäch’än Council were notified by mail and email. A notice of the proposed development was placed in the local newspapers on March 11, 2022.

A public input session was held on March 28, 2022. One submission was received. The submission was from the land owner, KDFN, expressing support for the application.

### **The recommendation of the City Planning Committee is**

THAT Council approve the Conditional Use application to allow a 157 m<sup>2</sup> caretaker residence as a secondary use, as shown on the submitted plans, at 238 Tlingit Street.



## Minutes of the meeting of the Development Services Committee

<b>Date</b>	April 04, 2022	2022-07
<b>Location</b>	Council Chambers, City Hall Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu - Chair Councillor Mellisa Murray – Chair	
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Mayor Laura Cabott Councillor Dan Boyd** Deputy Mayor Kirk Cameron Councillor Michelle Friesen Councillor Ted Laking	
<b>Staff Present</b>	Jeff O’Farrell, Interim City Manager Valerie Braga, Director of Corporate Services Lindsay Schneider, Director of Corporate HR Krista Mroz, Acting Director of Community Services Mike Gau, Director of Development Services Tracy Allen, Director of Operations** Darcy McCord, Acting Manager of Land and Building Services Wendy Donnithorne, Manager of Legislative Services	

\*\*Indicates electronic participation

---

Your Worship, the Development Services Committee respectfully submits the following report.

### **1. Pop Up Patio Program Updates – For Information Only**

The Committee was provided with additional information on specific issues related to the Pop-up Patio Program. At the March 7, 2022 Council Committee meeting, Administration reported on the City’s Pop-up Patio Program which resulted in Council approving a bylaw amendment to reduce the bagged meter fee for the 2022 season. During that process, Council passed a Resolution directing Administration to review the *Lease, Encroachment and Property Use Policy* with respect to the 6 m separation requirement between the outer edge of a pop-up patio to the nearest inside limit of the adjacent traffic lane (Section 2.10.7 (2)) and the liability insurance requirements (Section 4.2) to see if there were options to increase participation in the program.

Liability Insurance amounts are established through consultation with the City's insurer. Levels and amounts are set in relation to risk associated with each type of activity being proposed on public land. This insurance is designed to protect the business owner and the City in the event of an incident. The amount of \$5 million for pop-up patios was assessed and established in May of 2021 with the introduction of the program. Reducing this insurance requirement would expose the business owner and the City to additional risk.

The City's insurer has been consulted on the new approach to separation distances outlined in this report and does not recommend any changes to the required Liability Insurance – that it remain at \$5 million. A Committee member suggested that more research be done in regards to liability amounts. Administration confirmed that this will be explored further.





## Minutes of the meeting of the City Operations Committee

<b>Date</b>	April 04, 2022	2022-07
<b>Location</b>	Council Chambers, City Hall Councillor Ted Laking – Chair Councillor Dan Boyd – Vice-Chair**	
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Mayor Laura Cabott Deputy Mayor Kirk Cameron Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu Councillor Michelle Friesen Councillor Mellisa Murray	
<b>Staff Present</b>	Jeff O’Farrell, Interm City Manager Valerie Braga, Director of Corporate Services Lindsay Schneider, Director of Corporate HR Krista Mroz, Acting Director of Community Services Mike Gau, Director of Development Services Tracy Allen, Director of Operations** Wendy Donnithorne, Manager of Legislative Services	

\*\*Indicates electronic participation

---

Your Worship, there is no report from the City Operations Committee



## Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee

<b>Date</b>	April 04, 2022	2022-07
<b>Location</b>	Council Chambers, City Hall	
	Councillor Mellisa Murray – Chair	
	Councillor Michelle Friesen – Vice-Chair	
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Mayor Laura Cabott	
	Councillor Dan Boyd**	
	Deputy Mayor Kirk Cameron	
	Councillor Jocelyn Curteanu	
	Councillor Ted Laking	
<b>Staff Present</b>	Jeff O'Farrell, Interim City Manager	
	Valerie Braga, Director of Corporate Services	
	Lindsay Schneider, Director of Corporate HR	
	Krista Mroz, Acting Director of Community Services	
	Mike Gau, Director of Development Services	
	Tracy Allen, Director of Operations**	
	Wendy Donnithorne, Manager of Legislative Services	

\*\*Indicates electronic participation

---


Your Worship, the Community Services Committee respectfully submits the following report:

1. **Daffodil Campaign** – For Information Only

Mayor Cabott proclaimed April 2022 as the Daffodil Campaign month in the City of Whitehorse.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Cabott, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wendy Donnithorne, City Clerk



ADOPTED at the regular Council meeting April 11, 2022.