



COUNCIL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Council Questions – Standing Committee December 4, 2023

1. Snow and Ice Control – On-Road Accessible Parking Spaces – For Information Only

a. *Does the City have a bike rack program?*

The City's Request-a-Rack program has resulted in more than 20 bike racks being installed on public property throughout the City since 2021. The proposed 2024-2027 Capital Budget includes a submission to purchase additional bike racks and advance the program into 2027. In addition, residents and businesses can apply to the Environmental Grant program for bike racks on private property.

b. *Is it against a Bylaw to chain a bike to a sign?*

There is no specific bylaw that addresses bicycles chained to a sign. However, under Section 77 of the Traffic Bylaw, the bicycle could be viewed as obstructing access to a sidewalk, which is a ticketable offense with a fine of \$75.00.

“Section 77. A Person shall not in any way obstruct a sidewalk, Roadway or Highway with anything including a Vehicle, container, structure, building materials, vegetation, landscaping materials, an electrical cord or water hose, unless they have obtained a Street Occupancy Permit from the Manager of Engineering. (Bylaw 2013-44, 2013-09-23)”

2. New Business – Accessible Playgrounds

a. *What are the hours for public access to the Frank Slim Building?*

The Fireplace Room is open to the public daily from 11:00am to 4:00pm The public can access washrooms at the Frank Slim Building Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm and Saturday to Sunday, 11:00am to 4:00pm.

3. Housing and Land Development Advisory Committee Work Plan and Update

a. *When is the term of the Housing and Land Development Advisory Committee up? What is the process to extend the Committee?*

The Housing and Land Development Advisory Committee was established by Council in July 2022. The Terms of Reference for the Committee as established by Council (consolidated to Bylaw 2017-28) are clear that the Committee is established for an initial two-year period and say that at or near the conclusion of this timeframe Council shall determine whether to extend the Committee. The Bylaw also specifies that If the Committee is extended, members may be reappointed. Administration anticipates bringing a report back to Council in June 2024 with a summary of activities and a recommendation of how to proceed.



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4. Public Hearing Report – Zoning Amendment – 68 Mascot Street

- a. *What is the current scope of the parking pass program and how can it be expanded to other residential and commercial areas?*

A Downtown parking permit program was created in 2012 to address the issue of employees parking in front of Downtown commercial or residential properties all day preventing property owners from parking near their properties. In 2023, the City has issued nearly 130 commercial parking permits and only two residential permits.

If a similar program was considered for expansion to other areas such as Whistle Bend, an assessment of need and cost to implement and manage would be recommended.

5. Zoning Amendment – 1302 Centennial Street

- a. *Will the development of 1302 Centennial Street be rentals?*

The Developer of 1302 Centennial Street hasn't decided if the building will be rental units or not. It should be noted that individually owned condominium units are often rented out.

- b. *What is the difference between the two properties leading to different zoning? What is the difference between RFX(g) and RFX(f)?*

There are two differences between the RMX(g) and RMX(f) special zoning modifications; the number of allowable units and the required vegetative buffer between residential properties. If the amendment is approved, both properties would have special restriction sections that limit the height to 13 m in height (15 m is typically permitted in this zone).

The properties being compared are both on Centennial Street and are similar in size and layout. The ones labelled RMX(f) were rezoned in 2021 and are limited to 9 units, where the proposed RMX(g) would be limited to 10. The number of units were proposed by each developer.

The zoning for these properties normally require a 3.0 m vegetative buffer adjacent to other residential properties. A reduction of this buffer was not applied for in 2021, but was provided for during the Development Permit approval. The Development Officer is able to use their discretion to reduce the buffer following the provisions of the Zoning Bylaw. Administration has included an exemption to this buffer at the zoning stage so there is consistency between the properties. The vegetative buffer requirement will be reviewed as part of the Zoning Bylaw Rewrite to update the provision for all future development applications in the RM zone.