

In Your Neighbourhood

Downtown Casino

Council considered a motion from Mayor Helps that Council direct the Mayor to write to the British Columbia Lottery Corporation to indicate that Victoria is no longer interested in hosting a casino. The [report](#) cited “...substantial issues uncovered with regard to money laundering in BC casinos as well as potential links to the trafficking of fentanyl,” in a rationale for the position. Council voted to postpone consideration of the matter until their January 17, 2019 Council Meeting.

Street Vending

Council has directed staff to (1) provide a final report and recommendations in January 2019 on the Mobile Bicycle Street Vending Pilot Project with a view to making the regulations permanent, and further, (2) that the broader street vending review be discontinued at this time.

City Strategic Plan and Budget

Council is in the process of developing a new **Strategic Plan** for the City. Over three consecutive Tuesdays ([November 6, 13, 20](#)) Council reviewed the current plan and considered new objectives. The draft plan will be approved by Council on December 13.

On November [26, 27](#) and December [7](#), Council considered its **2019 Budget** and approved a [draft budget](#) on [December 13](#). A [staff report](#) was attached to a special Committee of the Whole meeting on December 13 outlining your neighbourhood association input into the budget, including transportation-related comments and staff responses to each suggestion. Please take note of this if you submitted comments to staff on transportation.

Public engagement on the draft Strategic Plan and City budget will occur following that date and final approval is scheduled for the end of January. This will include a Strategic Plan Summit on January 19 and a Budget Survey (January 17-20) and Town Hall on January 15. Information on the [budget](#) and [strategic plan](#) will be posted on the City’s website in coming days.

Amongst its many actions, the draft Strategic Plan includes the following actions that may be of interest to the neighbourhood association:

- Resolve anomalies in neighbourhood boundaries
- Review CALUC process including clear terms of reference for increasing diversity (youth, renters, etc.), capacity building, term limits and a transparent and democratic process for selecting members
- Review and consider additional resources (financial and training) for CALUCs
- Support traffic calming in neighbourhoods Staff
- Support and nurture neighbourhood-led transportation planning
- Facilitate an annual “Neighbourhoods Summit” to consider emerging best practices in neighbourhood placemaking, planning and engagement.
- Support neighbourhood placemaking initiatives



January 2019 Update

Fernwood

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets on January [10](#), 17, 24, 31 at 9am. Council meets on January 17 and 31 beginning at 6:30pm. Residents can watch recordings of the meetings [here](#).