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THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**CITY OF WHITE ROCK**  
15322 BUENA VISTA AVENUE, WHITE ROCK, B.C. V4B 1Y6



October 10, 2019

A **DOGS ON THE PROMENADE TASK FORCE MEETING** will be held in the **CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS** located at **15322 Buena Vista Avenue, White Rock, BC**, on **OCTOBER 16, 2019** to begin at **4:00 p.m.** for the transaction of business as listed below.

T. Arthur, Director of Corporate Administration

**A G E N D A**

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**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force adopt the agenda for October 16, 2019 as circulated.

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**PAGE 3**

a) September 18, 2019

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force adopt the meeting minutes for September 18, 2019 as circulated.

**4. FURTHER UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO COUNCIL**

Councillor Kristjanson to provide an update to the task force on the Dogs on the Promenade recommendations carried over to the September 30 Council meeting.

**5. PILOT PROJECT SUCCESS/ FAILURE**

**PAGE 8**

At the September 18 meeting, Task Force members brainstormed what success and failure would look like for the pilot project. Task Force members ranked each item to determine the level of importance.

**6. METRICS**

At the previous Task Force meeting members expressed an interest in having further discussions regarding possible metrics for the pilot program.

**7. FEEDBACK RECEIVED FROM THE PILOT PROJECT TO DATE**

Director of Planning and Development Services to provide a verbal update.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Term for the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force
- Volunteer Appreciation Banquet – November 20, 2019

**9. 2019 SCHEDULE OF MEETING**

- a) The following 2019 Dogs on the Promenade Task Force meeting dates were approved by the Committee and are noted on the agenda for information purposes:
- November 8.
- b) The following schedule of Dogs on the Promenade Task Force meeting dates for 2020 are submitted for consideration:
- January 22
  - February 19
  - March 18
  - April 15

**Note:** The Dogs on the Promenade Task Force term ends April 30, 2020.

**10. CONCLUSION OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2019 DOGS ON THE PROMENADE TASK FORCE MEETING**

**PRESENT:** D. Campbell (left at 5:57 p.m.)  
Ar. MacDonald  
K. Sanderson  
D. Scott  
G. Wolgemuth

**COUNCIL:** Councillor S. Kristjanson (Chairperson)

**ABSENT:** An. MacDonald  
J. Thrall

**STAFF:** C. Isaak, Acting Director of Planning and Development Services (arrived at 4:23 p.m. and left at 5:56 p.m.)  
J. Nyhus, Manager, Buildings & Bylaws  
D. Kell, Manager, Communications  
D. Johnstone, Committee Clerk

Public: 2  
Press: 0

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**  
The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

2019-DOP-056

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force (the Task Force) adopt the September 18, 2019 with the addition of:

- On-Table documents for Item 4 – Dogs on the Promenade Task Force Recommendations to Council, and Status of Dogs on the Promenade Task Force Recommendations to Council.

**CARRIED**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

2019-DOP-057

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force (the Task Force) adopt the August 27, 2019 minutes as circulated.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Kristjanson noted that due to recent vacancies on the Task Force, three (3) new members have been appointed. Introductions were provided, along with a review of previous meeting discussions.

In response to questions from the Chairperson, newly appointed members noted that their visions of success for the Task Force would include: ensuring that the Task Force has covered all the bases, organized approach, and that the end of the pilot project leads to an increase in physical activity and mental well-being for White Rock residents.

Concerns were identified as: ensuring that there is information on where facilities are located (such as bag dispensers and garbage receptacles), and the length of leash for dogs (issues with tripping etc.)

#### 4. **UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO COUNCIL**

Councillor Kristjanson summarized On-Table documents 'Dogs on the Promenade Task Force Recommendations to Council' and 'Status of Dogs on the Promenade Task Force Recommendations to Council' for the Task Force.

The following discussion points were noted:

- It was clarified that the Task Force does not have a budget.
- Producing and implementing the map (indicating pilot period dates, license information etc.) is important to assist with resident information/communication.
- Enquiries were made if the communication plan would be ready for the launch of the pilot project. Staff advised that they are working to have all online information ready (all dog-related information will be available on one webpage – [www.whiterockcity.ca/dogs](http://www.whiterockcity.ca/dogs)).
- The ambassador program has worked well in other areas, such as Burnaby and Calgary. It was suggested that if, at the end of the pilot project, dogs continue to be allowed on the promenade in the off-season that this be revisited.
- It was clarified that the information provided on the City website would be fact based. The Task Force suggested that if the pilot project is to be continued, White Rock could promote itself as more of a dog-friendly environment.
- Dogs are deemed to be aggressive based on bylaw restrictions, and not by breed.
- Dog waste is to be disposed in the waste receptacles along the Promenade. Bag dispensers (with bags) will be provided by the City during the six (6) month pilot project.

**Action Item:** Staff to follow-up with the Task Force on the materials being used for the dog waste bags (compostable or not).

- Using bags that are not compostable was noted as a potential environmental concern.
- At the beginning of the pilot project, Bylaw enforcement will focus on ensuring dogs are leashed, leash length, and advocating for dog licenses.
- Staff noted that dogs are not allowed on the pier, as it is a heritage structure and is under the jurisdiction of the City.

**5. NEXT STEPS FOR THE TASK FORCE**

The Task Force discussed metrics, noting that it could be challenging to properly evaluate the pilot project when many of the metrics suggested to Council were not endorsed. It was further noted that comparative data is going to be challenging to acquire, as it is hard to find a basis for comparison.

Staff noted that negative dog interactions (bites, aggressive behavior, off-leash dogs, not picking up after dogs) will be tracked by Bylaw enforcement. It was suggested that this data could be compared with other areas in the City during the same time period.

The Task Force discussed the potential to have a survey nearing the end of the trial period. The importance of obtaining feedback from residents, tourists and businesses was noted. Discussion ensued, and it was suggested that a large variety of factors (parking rates, weather, etc.) make it challenging to equate any changes (positive or negative) to the pilot project alone.

**Action:** Staff to provide results from the dogs on the promenade online survey (from early 2019) to the Task Force for information.

The Chairperson initiated an exercise for the Task Force, asking members to identify what success and failure would look like for the pilot project.

**Success:**

- Inclusive;
- Less polarization;
- More compliance with bylaws;
- Increased visitors;
- Increased business on the waterfront (more people walking dogs on promenade and attending businesses in the area at the same time);
- White Rock is perceived to be more friendly;
- Co-Exist harmoniously;
- Quiet on the promenade;
- Alleviate resident concerns;
- More seniors walking; and,
- Increase of licenses.

**Failure:**

- Lots of unlicensed dogs;
- Lots of negative interactions with dogs (both Bylaw offences, such as dog bites, and non-bylaw issues (tripping over leashes etc.));
- People not picking up after their dogs;
- Dogs running wild on beach, unleashed;
- Lots of complaints;

- Dogs on the pier;
- Arguing; and
- Complaints at Council meetings/ City Hall – (stolen food, dog feces where people are sitting).

Task Force members were asked to prioritize these issues to determine which items were of the most importance.

**Action:** Staff to calculate the information provided, and to report back with a ranking of items at the next meeting.

2019-DOP-058

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force (the Task Force) meeting be extended to 6:30 p.m.

**CARRIED**

6.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

It was noted that the Task Force's current Terms of Reference has their term expiring December 31, 2019.

2019-DOP-059

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Dogs on the Promenade Task Force (the Task Force) requests that Council consider extending their term to April 30, 2020.

**CARRIED**

7.

**2019 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The following 2019 schedule was approved by the Task Force at their July 17 meeting. Dates have been provided for information:

- October 16; and,
- ~~November 20~~ November 8.

Staff noted a conflict with the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting date for the Task Force. Discussion ensued, and the Task Force determined that the meeting be changed to Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

**8. CONCLUSION OF THE AUGUST 27, 2019 DOGS ON THE PROMENADE  
TASK FORCE MEETING**

The Chairperson declared the meeting concluded at 6:11 p.m.



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Councillor Kristjanson, Chairperson

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D. Johnstone, Committee Clerk

UNAPPROVED

## **PILOT PROJECT SUCCESS/ FAILURE**

At the September 18 meeting, Task Force members brainstormed what success and failure would look like for the pilot project. Task Force members ranked each item to determine the level of importance. The ranking for each item is shown below:

### **Success:**

- Increased businesses on the waterfront (130)
- Increased Visitors (80)
- Compliance with bylaws (75)
- White Rock is perceived to be more friendly (65)
- Less Polarization (50)
- More Seniors Walking (40)
- Inclusive (25)
- Quiet on the Promenade (0)

### **Failure:**

- Lots of negative interactions with dogs (both Bylaw offences, such as dog bites, and non-bylaw issues (tripping over leashes etc.)) (175)
- People not picking up after their dogs – feces' on the promenade (100)
- People Conflicts (60)
- Lots of complaints (15) / complaints at City Hall (40) = (55)
- Lots of unlicensed dogs (40)
- Dogs running wild on beach, unleashed (15)
- Dogs on the Pier (10)