

April 29, 2021

Council to consider extension for interim shelter at Cannery Row

At the Council meeting today, administration will present recommendations to extend the ability for the interim shelter to operate at Cannery Row.

1. Why is there a recommendation to extend the operations at Cannery Row?

On April 7, Council directed administration to develop a list of potential sites for relocation of the interim shelter. The timeline to present this list was four weeks. However, for administration, in collaboration with the Province and service providers, to develop a detailed list of site options, go through the proper processes of securing a site and relocating, more time is needed. Administration is recommending a one-year extension

2. Why is administration recommending a one-year extension?

The one-year recommendation is to ensure the interim shelter can continue providing services to our vulnerable population during the pandemic while not only developing the detailed site list, but also the proper processes of choosing and securing a site, making necessary changes to the new site and relocating.

3. What steps are being recommended to allow for an extension?

Administration is recommending a new Land Use Bylaw amendment be considered to allow new information to be presented to Council to make an informed decision on the current situation. A development permit to allow operations to continue will also be needed if the bylaw amendment is approved.

4. Will there be a public hearing?

Yes if Council gives first reading to the new Land Use Bylaw amendment then a public hearing will be held two weeks after this date..

5. Is there enough time for the proper processes before the expiry date of the previous approved amendments to the Land Use Bylaw and development permit?

The current approvals in place to allow the interim shelter to continue to operate at Cannery Row expire on May 31. If Council approves administration's recommendations, to bring forward a new Land Use Bylaw amendment then this could happen before May 31.

6. What if Council does not approve the requirements to allow for the extension?

Due to the expiry of the current Land Use Bylaw and development permit, the interim shelter will not be permitted to operate at the Cannery Row location after May 31, 2021.

7. Will Council's decision affect the current zoning at the Safe Harbour and Mustard Seed permanent sites?

No, the current zoning for these sites will not be affected.

For more information, contact:

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