



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Municipal Hall
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Esquimalt, B.C. V9A 3P1

Legislation Text

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TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 24, 2024

Report No. FIN-24-015

TO: Council

FROM: Ian Irvine, Director of Financial Services

SUBJECT: Repeal Bylaw - Commercial Vehicle Licensing Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council provide first, second and third reading to Bylaw to Repeal Bylaw, 2002, No. 2494, No. 3141

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The provincial Commercial Vehicle License program ceased in 2019 however the Township's related bylaw remained in place. This repeal bylaw is intended to align the Township's legislation with lack of a formal program.

BACKGROUND:

The Commercial Vehicle Licensing (CVL) program was established by the provincial government in 1906 to provide municipalities with a revenue source intended to offset the impact that commercial vehicles had on local roads. In 1987, through an agreement with the province, the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) became responsible for administering the program.

In 2018, the UBCM conducted a review of the CVL program. This analysis considered topics such as revenue distribution, licensing requirements, and feedback from various municipalities. Overall, it was determined that (i) the revenue was insufficient to meet the program's intentions, (ii) program administration costs were significant, and (iii) enforcement was not consistent among jurisdictions. Based on this review, the decision was made to end the CVL program as of December 31, 2019.

ANALYSIS:

In the years before the program ended, the Township received an annual amount of approximately \$4,000 from the sale of commercial vehicle licenses. This revenue amount was not seen as sufficient to cover the necessary administration and enforcement costs.

Some local governments responded to the program's discontinuance by introducing their own

commercial vehicle licensing program. While that is an option for the Township, due to the required staff resources and potential benefits, these have typically been established in larger municipalities such as Vancouver, Prince George and Victoria.

OPTIONS:

This bylaw to repeal the existing bylaw represents administrative housekeeping and is intended to align the Township's legislation with the lack of a provincial program. While Council can maintain the existing bylaw and reinstate a commercial vehicle licensing program, management's concerns about the previous program closely mirrored those identified during the review.

COUNCIL PRIORITY:

Good Governance

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

As the Township has not been collecting licensing revenue since the program announcement, there is no financial impact related to the repeal of the existing bylaw.

COMMUNICATIONS/ENGAGEMENT:

The initial press release regarding the end of the program was communicated by UBCM in December 2019. As the Township adjusted its budget and operations at that time, there is no requirement for communication regarding the repeal of this bylaw.

TIMELINES & NEXT STEPS:

After receiving first, second and third readings, the repeal bylaw will be brought forth for adoption at the July 8, 2024 Council meeting.

REPORT REVIEWED BY:

1. Deb Hopkins, Director of Corporate Services, Reviewed
2. Dan Horan, Chief Administrative Officer, Concurrence

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

1. Commercial Vehicle Licensing Bylaw, 2002, No. 2494