

NO: **L007**

COUNCIL DATE: **November 26, 2012**

REGULAR COUNCIL – LAND USE

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **November 22, 2012**

FROM: **General Manager, Planning and Development**

FILE: **7912-0299-00**

SUBJECT: **Gaming License Application Related to a Proposed Hotel, Conference Centre, Entertainment Facility and Casino at 1083, 1109, 1177 – 168 Street and 1068 Highway 99 in South Surrey**

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning and Development Department recommends that Council receive this report as information.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the current status of the gaming license application for a proposed relocation and expansion of the community gaming centre license from the Newton Bingo Hall site at 7093 King George Boulevard to a proposed entertainment complex in South Surrey at 1083, 1109, 1177 – 168 Street and 1068 Highway 99 and to advise Council that it is expected that the application and related Planning report will be forwarded for Council's consideration as part of the agenda for the Regular Council – Land Use Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2012.

BACKGROUND

On October 18, 2012, the City received a letter from British Columbia Lottery Corporation ("BCLC") requesting Council approval to relocate the community gaming centre license from the Newton Bingo Hall site at 7093 King George Boulevard and expand the license to a casino license to be part of a proposed entertainment complex at 1083/1109/1177 - 168 Street and 1068 Highway 99 in the Highway 99 Corridor in South Surrey. The proposed South Surrey site is already the subject of a rezoning and development permit application (7909-0169-00). The rezoning by-law, which was given third reading by Council in February, 2010, includes as a permitted use the development of an entertainment complex on the site, including a gaming facility (i.e., casino) use; however, a casino cannot be opened on the site without a gaming license being issued by the BCLC. Such a gaming license will not be issued by BCLC without City Council approving the issuance of such a license.

A gaming license application has been received by the City (7912-0299-00) from the owner of the South Surrey site.

DISCUSSION

The gaming license application review process is underway in accordance with the City Gaming Policy and the procedural requirements outlined in the letter from the BCLC to ensure compliance with the statutory requirements of the *Gaming Control Act* and *Gaming Control Regulation*.

Consultation notices have been sent to all potentially affected local governments, including municipalities, regional districts and first nations, within a 5 kilometre radius of the proposed gaming facility. The notice informs them of the proposed gaming license relocation and expansion. The notice was sent to the Township of Langley, City of White Rock, and the Semiahmoo First Nation. A public consultation process has also been undertaken that included mail-out pre-notification letters, development proposal signs on the site and detailed information available to the public on the City's website. The applicant also held a public information meeting on November 17, 2012 at the Hazelmere Golf Course.

Numerous items of correspondence from the public, both in favour and opposed to the project, are being received by the City in response to the public notification process. In addition, the applicant is working on finalizing the informational material and studies required under the City Gaming Policy.

City staff had originally targeted having the application and related Planning report ready for Council consideration at the Regular Council – Land Use meeting scheduled for November 26, 2012; however, complete information in relation to the application is not yet available to staff to meet this schedule.

Staff needs to complete the following:

- A review and detailed analysis of the correspondence regarding the application received from the public;
- Receive and consider comments from the City of White Rock and the Township of Langley, which comments staff have been advised will be arriving during the week of November 26, 2012 and to consider the comments that have been received from the Semiahmoo First Nation;
- To receive and review a finalized socio-economic impact study that is being completed by BCLC; and
- To receive and review a finalized version of the traffic impact study for the proposed development.

CONCLUSION

It is anticipated that this work will be completed in the next two weeks such that the Gaming License Application and the related Planning report can be forwarded to City Council for consideration at the Regular Council – Land Use Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2012.

Original signed by
Jean Lamontagne
General Manager,
Planning and Development

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