

CITY OF WHITEHORSE
SPECIAL Council Meeting #2024-23

DATE: Thursday, December 12, 2024

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Kirk Cameron
Deputy Mayor Dan Boyd
Reserve Deputy Mayor Jenny Hamilton

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA Adoption

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Alternative Zoning Amendment Public Notification Methods

ADJOURNMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Administration
DATE: December 12, 2024
RE: Alternative Zoning Amendment Public Notification Methods

ISSUE

Council direction to use alternative methods to notify the public of proposed zoning bylaw amendments.

REFERENCE

- [City of Whitehorse Zoning Bylaw Section 15.5](#)

HISTORY

The Zoning Bylaw requires public notification of any proposed zoning amendment. The proposed amendment, date, time and place for the public hearing, the reasons for the amendment and an explanation of it is required to be mailed to property owners within a defined area. The bylaw allows that in the event of a postal delivery disruption alternate notification may be used, as directed by Council.

The Canada Post strike which began on November 15, 2024 has disrupted mail services, impacting the City's ability to deliver these notifications. As of December 14, 2024, negotiations between the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and Canada Post are ongoing.

Several upcoming zoning amendments, including those for the Copper Ridge Master Plan Area (Bylaw 2024-52) and 1702 Centennial Street (Bylaw 2024-57), require public notifications.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Council approve the use of alternative notification methods during the current postal delivery disruption, and that these methods remain in effect for the duration of the disruption, or until Council determines otherwise.
2. Take no additional action.

ANALYSIS

Failure to provide written notice of public hearings as required risks non-compliance with bylaws, legal challenges, loss of community trust, and costly delays if the process is invalidated.

In addition to the mailed notifications required under the bylaw, the City also places signage at or near the subject location and advertises on the City website. Administration is suggesting that for the duration of the mail disruption the City also advertise in a newspaper and through City social media platforms. This should ensure that there are multiple sources for information to get to the public that are digital and non-digital.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve the use of alternative notification methods during the current postal delivery disruption, and that these methods remain in effect for the duration of the disruption, or until Council determines otherwise.