

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**TO:**            *MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL FOR FIRE SERVICES BYLAW REPLACEMENT**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** staff be authorized to initiate work to replace the Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2004, as outlined in the report titled “Approval for Fire Services Bylaw Replacement” dated February 28, 2024.

**REPORT**

The Public Safety Committee, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, received and adopted the attached report seeking Council approval to authorize staff to replace the Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2004 with a new Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2024.

On behalf of the Public Safety Committee,

Councillor J. Wang  
Chair

Councillor M. Santiago  
Vice Chair

**TO:** PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (PSC)  
**FROM:** FIRE CHIEF  
**SUBJECT:** **APPROVAL FOR FIRE SERVICES BYLAW REPLACEMENT**  
**PURPOSE:** To seek direction to initiate replacement of the Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2004.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** staff be authorized to initiate work to replace the Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2004 as outlined in the report titled “Approval for Fire Services Bylaw Replacement” dated February 28, 2024.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As the intent is to redevelop the Fire Services Bylaw, it is proposed that staff be directed to initiate the work needed to replace the bylaw with a new Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2024.

### **1.0 POLICY SECTION**

The work to update the bylaws requested serve to appropriately exercise the City’s statutory authority via regulating services, prohibiting activities and imposing requirements within the City.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

The Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw 2004 addresses the establishment of the Burnaby Fire Department, prevention and suppression of fires, regulation of fire hazards and preservation of life and property. It is proposed that the Burnaby Fire Services Bylaw be replaced to reflect language and content identified by several best practices for fire services within neighboring municipalities (i.e. North Vancouver, Delta and Richmond) and industrial requirements related to Burnaby’s unique industrial landscape (i.e. refineries, hydrocarbon storage, tank farms and marine terminals).

### **3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 Bylaw Redevelopment**

In order to provide the City of Burnaby with appropriate and up to date fire services regulations, the Fire Department seeks approval to provide a comprehensive rewrite. The content of the proposed new bylaws will be based on extensive review of bylaw

provisions in adjacent municipalities' fire services bylaws to ensure best practices are addressed. The impact of updating the provisions and structure of the City's Fire Services Bylaw will be greater transparency and clarity to support fire and emergency safety within the Burnaby community.

**3.2 Proposed Bylaw Changes of Significance – Existing Content**

The potential changes of significance related to existing content include:

- Ability to write bylaw violation notices for non-compliance
- Requirements for Fire Protection Systems, upgrades and maintenance
- Hydrocarbon facility fire and safety performance standards
- Fireworks permitting exemptions
- Updated fees and charges

**3.3 Proposed Bylaw Changes of Significance – New Content**

The changes of significance related to new content include:

- Levels of service and compliance to minimum training standards for the fire department
- Authority related to management of vacant or fire-damaged buildings
- Fire safety requirements for building and projects under construction
- Cost responsibility for technical 3<sup>rd</sup> party compliance reports and code analysis
- Wildland fire control authority

**4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Not applicable

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Bowcock, Fire Chief

**REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

This report was prepared by Chris Bowcock, Fire Chief and reviewed by May Leung, City Solicitor and Dave Critchley, General Manager Community Safety.