

TO: CITY MANAGER 1993 JULY 15  
FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING OUR FILE: 17.927  
SUBJECT: LOCATIONAL REGULATION OF POOL/  
BILLIARD HALLS AND AMUSEMENT ARCADES  
PURPOSE: To recommend text amendments to the Zoning Bylaw to create a separate zoning category for pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT Council direct staff to prepare a Zoning Bylaw text amendment that would specifically regulate the location of pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades as outlined in Section 2.0 of this report.

**REPORT**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Council has previously directed staff to monitor particular pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades for nuisance and land use problems and to make recommendations, if appropriate, regarding locational and administrative regulations.

This report responds to those directives. It is a companion to another report on this agenda which recommends, among other things, restricting the hours of operation of the same types of establishments.

**2.0 CHANGES TO THE ZONING BYLAW**

Under the current provisions of the Zoning Bylaw, both pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades are permitted in C3 and C4 Zoning Districts. Pool/billiard halls are also permitted in C2 Districts.

In light of previous problems with such uses, staff have concluded that the potential exists for serious negative social impacts if applications for pool halls and amusement arcades are not assessed in a thorough manner, with regards to adjacent land uses. Staff believe that City staff, Council and the public should be involved in such assessment. The creation of subdesignations (C2b, C3b, and C4a) within the relevant C Districts, with "pool/billiard halls" and/or "amusement arcades" identified specifically as the permitted uses, would help to ensure that such establishments are located in suitable locations with a minimum potential for social and neighbourhood disruption.

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With this regulation, all future pool halls and amusement arcades would be required to apply for the "b" subdesignation in C3 Commercial Districts, or an "a" subdesignation in C4 Districts. In C2 Districts, pool/billiard halls would be required to apply for a "b" subdesignation. Existing pool halls and amusement arcades would become legally non-conforming uses until operation of the establishment ceased for six months or more or the operator applied for rezoning.

The proposed amendment would also necessitate defining pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades in the Zoning Bylaw.

**3.0 CONCLUSION**

In response to requests from Council, staff recommend that the location of pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades be regulated through the Zoning Bylaw. This would help to ensure that new establishments are located in suitable locations with a minimum of social and neighbourhood disruption, and that the public have an opportunity to be formally consulted regarding each rezoning application. It is recommended that Zoning Bylaw text amendments be prepared to provide for a C2b subcategory, to allow pool/billiard halls to locate on properties having a C2b zoning designation, and for C3b and C4a subcategories to allow pool/billiard halls and amusement arcades to locate on properties having those zoning designations.

*D.G. Stenson*  
 for D.G. Stenson, Director  
 PLANNING & BUILDING

*JS/db*

- cc: City Solicitor
- Director Finance
- Director Parks & Recreation
- Director Administrative and Community Services
- Officer-in-Charge, RCMP
- Medical Health Officer