



REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Richmond City Council
FROM: Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt, Chair
General Purposes Committee
DATE: January 18th, 2001
FILE: 8060-20-7141
RE: LATE NIGHT EVENTS (RAVE) MORATORIUM

The General Purposes Committee, at its meeting held on Monday, January 15th, 2001, considered the attached report, and recommends as follows:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

(submitted without a recommendation as the staff recommendation was defeated)

Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt, Chair
General Purposes Committee

Attach.

VARIANCE

Please note that staff recommended the following:

That the moratorium on the acceptance of applications for Late Night Events (Raves) be lifted to the extent that the City will accept applications for a maximum of 3 Late Night Events for the months of February, March and April, 2001, such events are to be held on the first three Saturdays of each month, unless the Friday or Monday of the weekend is a statutory holiday, in which case the event may be held the next available Saturday.

STAFF REPORT

ORIGIN

Council imposed a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for Late Night Events (Raves) until February 13, 2001. If the time for application were increased to 6 weeks from the current 10 days, this would mean the next rave could not be held until March 27, 2001.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have indicated that they are able to provide policing for a maximum of 3 raves a month, and are agreeable to the lifting of the moratorium to that extent.

The current moratorium, if not modified as suggested, would result in a 3 months period where no raves would be permitted. This is causing a hardship to those involved in the industry.

The RCMP have suggested that the most suitable night for their logistical and resource concerns would be Saturday night, unless there is a statutory Holiday on the Monday or Friday of the weekend, in which case the next available Saturday would be used.

ANALYSIS

The lifting of the moratorium as suggested allows for a limited number of raves to be held while the new regulations are considered. By setting dates into April, the time pressure will be lessened which will allow for careful consideration of the myriad of issues surrounding these events. Under the proposed amendments, these will be dates allowed in any event, so there is no harm in setting dates into April.

If the moratorium is lifted to the extent suggested raves would be allowed on the following dates

February 3, 10 and 17

March 3, 10 and 17

April 7, 21 and 28

In all other aspects, other than the number of raves, the applications would be considered based on the existing regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The rave promoter is required to pay the costs of providing the extra policing required for these events and unless there are major problems at an event, there should not be significant costs to the City.

CONCLUSION

The lifting of the moratorium as recommended will alleviate some of the hardship on the rave industry caused by the original moratorium.



Paul Kendrick
City Solicitor