



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

To General Purposes - May 7, 2007
Date: April 16, 2007

From: Amarjeet S Rattan
Manager, Business Liaison

File: 12-8275-20-01

**Re: Mad Greek Restaurant Ltd. doing business as Mad Greek Restaurant at 7260 Westminster Highway, Richmond
Food-Primary Liquor Licence Amendment - Change to Hours of Sale & Patron Participation Entertainment Endorsement**

Staff Recommendation

That Council support the following amendments to the Food-Primary liquor licence held by Mad Greek Restaurant located at 7260 Westminster Highway:

- Change of hours of sale from the current 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. Sundays through Mondays to 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. Sundays through Mondays
- Patron Participation Endorsement (entertainment must end by midnight)

for the reasons outlined in the attached staff report, and, that Council forward a Letter of Resolution to the Manager of the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch in support of the amendments.

Amarjeet S Rattan
Manager, Business Liaison
(4686)

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY					
ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Business Licences	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
R.C.M.P.	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
Zoning.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Acting</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

The Provincial Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) issues licences in accordance with the Liquor Control & Licensing Act and Regulations.

Local government is given opportunity to provide comments and recommendations to the LCLB, with respect to liquor licence applications and amendments. For an amendment to an existing licence, the process requires local government to provide a Council Resolution that addresses the following review criteria:

- the views of nearby residents and businesses, and the methods by which such views were gathered
- the potential for noise
- the impact on the community

This report deals with an application by Rose Liapis, principal of Mad Greek Restaurant Ltd., for the following amendments to its Food-Primary liquor licence:

- Change of hours of sale from the current 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. Sundays through Mondays to 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. Sundays through Mondays
- Patron Participation Entertainment Endorsement (entertainment must end by midnight as per LCLB regulations)

The proposed form of entertainment is for live band and belly dance performances. Mad Greek Restaurant is located at 7260 Westminster Highway which is zoned Automobile-Oriented Commercial District (C6).

Analysis

Mad Greek Restaurant (hereinafter referred to as “the Applicant”) is located on the south side of Westminster Highway. The current zoning permits a Food Catering establishment as well as Commercial Entertainment. The request for patron participation entertainment, as proposed by the Applicant, is consistent with the zoning for the property. The surrounding area is made up of mixed uses such as a neighbourhood pub, hotel, residential, retail stores and high-density residential projects currently under construction.

The Applicant’s letter of intent (Attachment 1) indicates that they are proposing to provide belly dancing entertainment which could include patron participation as well as live bands for patrons who like the dining and dancing atmosphere. The patron participation entertainment endorsement, if approved, applies during licensed hours until midnight. As per LCLB regulations, such entertainment is not permitted beyond midnight regardless of the application for extension of hours for liquor service.

Summary of Application & Comments

To satisfy LCLB requirements, the City's review process requires that the public be notified of the proposed amendment and be given an opportunity to express any concerns related to the proposal.

This Public Consultation process requires that the Applicant post a sign in front of its business establishment, indicating what the proposed amendment is for. This sign must be displayed for a minimum of 30 days. The Applicant must also place three Notification Ads in local newspapers.

The City, on behalf of the Applicant, is required to send a letter to businesses, residents and property owners within a 100 metre radius of the establishment. This letter provides details of the proposed amendment and requests the public to communicate any concerns to the City. The graph below outlines the dates that each of the required processes was started.

Item	Details	
Application	Amendments to Food-Primary liquor licence # 301779	
Type	1. Change to Hours of Sale	2. Patron Participation Entertainment Endorsement
Location	7260 Westminster Highway	
Present Hours of Liquor Sales	9:00am – Midnight, Mondays through Sundays	
Proposed Hours of Liquor Sales	11:00 am – 1:00 am, Mondays through Sundays	
Zoning	C6	
Business Owners	Rose Liapis, Nick Liapis	
Date Received	February 13, 2007	
Date Sign Posted	March 6, 2007	
Ads in newspaper	March 3, 8, 10, 2007	
Letters to residents	March 9, 2007	

The public consultation period for this application ended April 10, 2007.

Views of nearby residents, businesses and property owners

There are 145 properties located within the consultation area. On March 9, 2007, letters were sent to 280 businesses, residents and property owners to gather their views on the application. There were 8 letters returned as undeliverable.

As of April 11, 2007, no community responses were received from the letters that were mailed out, from the sign posted at the business premises or notices placed in the local newspapers.

Potential for noise

The potential for noise from a live band or belly dancing performances or from patrons leaving the restaurant would be no different than that which already exists with the applicant's current liquor licence or in comparison to the neighbourhood pub which is located in the same vicinity.

Potential negative impacts on the community

There is potential for activities generally associated with extended hours of liquor sales, such as drinking and driving, criminal activity and late-night traffic. There is also potential that extended hours may pose increased enforcement issues. Despite these potential concerns, staff feel that endorsement of this application is warranted due to the lack of any negative public feedback as well as the nature of the business as a Food-Primary establishment. According to the City's records, this business establishment has no history of non-compliance with respect to its Food – Primary licence.

Potential positive impacts on the community

Patron participation entertainment at the Applicant's business establishment will likely enhance patrons' dining experience and expand the local market of venues providing such a service. This, in turn, will likely result in a positive economic impact to the community. Although the entertainment endorsement would apply to the hours that the establishment is licenced, food service would remain the primary nature of the business.

Other agency comments

As part of the review process, staff have requested comments from Vancouver Coastal Health, Richmond RCMP, Richmond Fire-Rescue and the City's Building Permit and Business Licence Departments. These agencies and divisions generally provide comments on the compliance history of applicants operations and premises.

No objections to the application were received from any of the above mentioned agencies and divisions.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

Following the public consultation period, staff have reviewed the application and considered it in light of the legislated review criteria.

The request for an extension of hours and the proposed entertainment in the form of belly dancing and live band performances is consistent with the zoning for this property and also consistent with the hours of operation for other similar restaurants. Given the Applicant's

April 16, 2007

- 5 -

history of compliance with the various agencies consulted, and, lack of any negative public feedback, staff recommend that Council provide a Resolution to the LCLB in support of this application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Kattan" with a smaller signature below it.

Joanne Hikida
Licence Inspector
(4155)

JMH:jmh

Attachment – Application letter from Mad Greek Resturant

MAD GREEK RESTAURANT
7260 WESTMINSTER HIGHWAY
RICHMOND, B.C.
TEL: 604-278-9598

January 24, 2007

Business Licence Department
Richmond City Hall
Richmond, B.C.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Application for patron participating licence

We are a Greek Restaurant in downtown Richmond. Greek restaurant is always known for fun atmosphere with music, taverna dancing and belly dancing. We have been in Richmond for more than 9 years and have recently relocated to the above location since December, 2005. Because we have designed a dance floor in the centre of the dining room, we'd like to have belly dance performance on the weekends. The belly dancer often like to invite patrons to get up and dance with her.

We also got a lot of suggestions and comments from our patrons that we should have some form of dinner and dance once in a while as Richmond doesn't have too many of these entertainment for the mature crowd.

As for the noise, we have good sound barrier and the dine and dance will probably be on the weekends and will be over between 12:00 – 1:00 a.m.

If you need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,
Mad Greek Restaurant



Rose Liapis