



To: General Purposes Committee

Date: May 11, 2005

From: Anne Stevens
Manager, Customer Services

File: 12-8275-30-020/Vol 01

Re: **Vancouver Airport Hilton, 5911 Minoru Boulevard**
Liquor-Primary Licence Amendment - Temporary Extension of Licensed Area

Staff Recommendation

That the application by Vancouver Airport Hilton, located at 5911 Minoru Boulevard, to temporarily extend the licensed area to the patio be supported for the reasons outlined in the staff report dated May 11, 2005, from the Manager, Customer Services.

Anne Stevens
Manager, Customer Services
(4273)

Att. 1

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ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
R.C.M.P.		Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>			
REVIEWED BY TAG		YES	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO	
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Staff Report

Origin

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

The LCLB notifies local government to give them the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations to the LCLB on liquor licence applications and amendments. For a temporary amendment to an existing licence, the process requires the local government to provide “objection” or “no objection” on the application form. The local government is not required to provide a Council resolution on the application, nor is there any criteria by which to review the application. To-date, the practice has been for staff to accept the application, consult with appropriate agencies, and then sign off the application. The direction has changed recently regarding the City’s review process for temporary amendment applications. The new direction is that a report be presented to Committee and Council on the nature of the application to determine whether to object or support the amendment.

This report deals with an application by Vancouver Airport Hilton, doing business as “Sax on Minoru”, to amend their Liquor-Primary licence to extend the licensed area to their patio on a temporary basis during the months of May until October 2005 inclusive.

Analysis

The Vancouver Airport Hilton hotel (hereafter referred to as “the Applicant”) is located at 5911 Minoru Blvd at the corner of Elmbridge Way. The property is zoned Downtown Commercial District (C7), which permits a lounge in conjunction with a hotel. The Applicant’s request for a temporary extension of the licensed lounge area to the patio is consistent with the zoning for this property. The surrounding area is made up of mixed uses, namely Limited Industrial Retail (I4), Downtown Commercial district (C7), and Automobile Orientated Commercial District (C6). The Provincial Courthouse is located across the street from the hotel, to the northwest.

The patio to which the Applicant is proposing to extend the licensed area is 68.5 ft in length by 6 ft 9 inches wide, surrounded by chain link stanchions and two entrances to the hotel lounge. The current patron capacity of the lounge is 42 patrons. The proposed patron capacity of the patio is 25 seats with 6 small tables. This indicates an increase to the patron capacity by 25. There is no change proposed to the hours of liquor sales. The Applicant made the same application in 2004 and was approved.

Summary of Application & Comments

Item	Details
Application	Amendment to Liquor-Primary licence # 187979
Type	Temporary Extension of Licensed Area
Location	5911 Minoru Boulevard
Hours of Liquor Sales	11:00 am to 1:00 am Mondays to Saturdays,
Zoning	C7
Business Owner	Amin Lalti, Principal
Date Received	April 22, 2005

Staff have considered comments from the Building Approvals department, Richmond Fire-Rescue and Richmond RCMP in reviewing this application. These agencies provide comments on the compliance history of the applicant and the proposed amendment in light of their mandates.

The RCMP and Building Approvals department both provided no objection to the application. The occupant load for the patio had already been approved as part of last year's request.

If the application is approved by the LCLB, Richmond Fire-Rescue has advised that the patio may require sprinkler protection if it is below a portion of the building overhang, and that egress from the patio area may need to be addressed. If the application is approved, staff would advise the Applicant to contact Richmond-Fire Rescue for more information on complying with the appropriate fire prevention requirements.

Staff recommend that a letter be sent to the LCLB requesting that this condition be placed on approval of the application.

Although there are no legislated criteria to consider in reviewing this application, staff also typically consider the potential for noise and impact to the community if the application is approved. The potential for an increase to the noise level in the area is minimal, as the patio is located in a mixed use area that is already impacted by ambient noise from commercial uses. Staff are not concerned with the potential for noise that may be generated by hotel clients using the lounge patio during the summer. Staff feel that there would be minimal impact to the community if this application is approved.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

This report deals with an application by Vancouver Airport Hilton, doing business as "Sax on Minoru", to amend their Liquor-Primary licence to extend the licensed area to their patio on a temporary basis during the months of May until October 2005 inclusive. The use proposed by the applicant is consistent with the zoning for this property.

Staff reviewed the application and considered comments from other City departments and agencies. Staff recommend that Council provide no objection to the application, and that a letter be sent to the LCLB requesting that fire prevention conditions be placed on approval of the application.



Anne Stevens
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