



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee

Date: June 18, 2012

From: Gavin Woo, P. Eng.
Senior Manager, Building Approvals

File: 12-8060-20-8736

Re: Basic Universal Housing Features – Zoning Bylaw Amendment

Staff Recommendation

That Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, Amendment Bylaw 8736 be introduced and given first reading.

Gavin Woo, P. Eng.
Senior Manager, Building Approvals
(604-276-4113)

Att. (2)

| REPORT CONCURRENCE | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ROUTED TO: | CONCURRENCE | CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER | |
| Law | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Development Applications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Policy Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| REVIEWED BY TAG SUBCOMMITTEE | INITIALS: | REVIEWED BY CAO | INITIALS: |

Staff Report

Origin

At the regular Planning Committee Meeting of May 3, 2011, Council referred the "Basic Universal Housing Features – Zoning Bylaw Amendment" report back to staff:

"to ensure that the standards embodied in the current requirements are not unnecessarily diminished as part of the harmonization of the Richmond Zoning Bylaw No. 8500 with the new Provincial Adaptable Housing Standards in the BC Building Code."

Findings of Fact

On April 19, 2011, staff prepared a report to harmonize the Basic Universal Housing Features requirements in the Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500 with the new Provincial Adaptable Housing Standards in the BC Building Code.

In the harmonization, only three features were to be removed from the Richmond Zoning Bylaw, namely:

- 1) Floor surfaces to be slip resistant (5.4.16.14)
- 2) Easy to reach and grasp handles on cupboards (5.4.16.25(c))
- 3) Task lighting at sink, stove and key working areas (5.4.16.25(d))

The other features were to have minor dimensional changes. Those changes provided better provision for accessible units and consistency in how adaptable housing is designed and built (Table 1).

Analysis

Staff have now had an opportunity to review the proposed changes in the revised BC Building Code which is anticipated to be published July, 2012. There were no proposed changes to the current Adaptable Housing Standards in the BC Building Code and it does not contain the above three features in the City's Basic Universal Housing Features.

Since the three features will not be included in the revised BC Building Code, staff recommend they be left in the Richmond Zoning Bylaw as they promote a barrier-free housing environment and will not diminish the current features in the Richmond Zoning Bylaw.

Staff had further discussion with representatives from the Urban Development Institute Group who were in concurrence and support the recommendations.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Staff recommend retaining the three features set out in sections 4.16.14, 4.16.25 (c) and 4.16.25 (d) of the Zoning Bylaw (see Table 1) when the City's Basic Universal Housing Features are harmonized with the Provincial Adaptable Housing Standards. The proposed Zoning Amendment Bylaw 8736 sets out all the changes needed to implement the harmonization.



Gavin Woo, P. Eng.
Senior Manager, Building Approvals
(604-276-4113)

GW:jd

Att (2)

Table 1

| RICHMOND ZONING BYLAW & BC BUILDING CODE COMPARISON TABLE | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Zoning Bylaw 8500 | | BCBC 2006 | |
| 4.16.2. Dwelling units and amenities to be accessible from a road and parking | Required | Required | 3.8.2.3.(1) 3.8.2.27.(1) 3.8.2.31. |
| 4.16.3. Access to the elevator from the road and parking | Required | Required | 3.8.2.27.(1)(c) |
| | Not required | Required (elevator, balcony, ramp) | 3.8.2.3.(1)(e) 3.8.3.19. Egress from the accessible floor area. |
| | Not required | Required | 3.8.2.31.(2) Visual warning system |
| 4.16.4. Automatic door opener for the main entry | Required | Required | 3.8.3.5.(4) |
| 4.16.5. The minimum clear openings for entry doors to dwelling unit and in common areas | 855 mm 850 mm | 850 mm | 3.8.5.3.(3) |
| 4.16.6. The minimum clear opening for interior doors to at least one bedroom and one bathroom | 800 mm <u>This requirement to apply for interior doors to common living area as well</u> | 800 mm (... and to common living area) | 3.8.5.4.(1) |
| 4.16.11.(a) Where the door swings toward the area, the minimum length of clear and level area in front of the door | 1220 1500 mm x (door width + 600 mm on the latch side) (for entry doors to dwelling only) <u>This requirement to apply for one bathroom and one bedroom for 2 bedroom and larger units</u> | 1500 mm x (door width + 600 mm on the latch side) (for entry doors to dwelling, one bathroom and one bedroom) | 3.8.5.4.(2) 3.3.1.13.(10)(b)(i) |

RICHMOND ZONING BYLAW & BC BUILDING CODE COMPARISON TABLE

| Zoning Bylaw 8500 | | BCBC 2006 | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 4.16.11.(b) Where the door swings away from the area, the minimum length of clear and level area in front of the door | 1220 mm x (door width + 600 300 mm on the latch side) (for entry doors to dwelling only) <u>This requirement to apply for common living areas for all units, and to one bathroom and one bedroom for 2 bedroom and larger units</u> | 1220 mm x (door width + 300 mm on the latch side) (for entry doors to dwelling, common living areas, one bathroom and one bedroom) | 3.8.5.4.(2) 3.3.1.13.(10)(b)(ii) |
| 4.16.11.(c) Minimum separation of doors in series | 1220 mm + door width | 1220 mm + door width | 3.3.1.13.(12) |
| 4.16.11.(d) Clear area in front of the power operated doors | Exempted | 1100 mm x door width (for doors swing away and sliding doors) (1100 mm + arc of the door swing) x door width (for doors swing into) | 3.8.5.4.(2) 3.3.1.13.(10)(b)(iii) 3.3.1.13.(10)(b)(iv) |
| 4.16.12. Width of common corridor not less than | 1220 mm and <u>1500x1500 mm clear area adjacent to elevator entrance</u> | 1220 mm and 1500x1500 mm clear area adjacent to elevator entrance and every 10 m | 3.8.5.3.(2) |
| 4.16.13. No abrupt changes in the floor surfaces (max 13 mm threshold) | Required <u>Exempt this requirement for the balcony and deck door sills</u> | Required | 3.3.1.13.(11) 3.8.3.10 |
| 4.16.14. Floor surfaces to be slip resistant | Required <u>Take out this requirement</u> | Not required except in the stairs | |

| RICHMOND ZONING BYLAW & BC BUILDING CODE COMPARISON TABLE | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Zoning Bylaw 8500 | | BCBC 2006 | |
| 4.16.16. At least one window in the bedroom and one in the living room have to have sill height of | Max 750 mm | Not required | |
| 4.16.16. “Accessible” window hardware on the accessible windows | Required | Not required | |
| 4.16.18. Height of light switches, electrical panels | Max 1220 mm 900 – 1200 mm | 900 – 1200 mm | 3.8.3.14.(1)(e) 3.8.5.7.(2) |
| 4.16.18. Height of intercom | Max 1220 1375 mm | Max 1375 mm | 3.8.2.27.(2) |
| 4.16.19. Electrical outlets, cable outlets and telephone jacks height | Min 450 mm 455 – 1200 mm | 455 – 1200 mm | 3.8.5.7.(1) |
| 4.16.20. Thermostats height | 900 – 1350 1200 mm | 900 – 1200 mm | 3.8.3.14.(1)(e) 3.8.5.7.(2) |
| 4.16.21. Clear front area of minimum width of 750 mm in front of the controls | Required | Required to be “accessible” | 3.8.3.14.(1)(e) |
| 4.16.22. Rocker or paddle-type light switches | Required | Required to be “accessible” | 3.8.3.14.(1)(e) |
| 4.16.23.(a) Clearance from a centre line of the toilet to adjacent wall with grab bar | 420 – 480 mm | 420 – 480 mm | 3.7.2.10.(3)(a) |
| 4.16.23.(a) Clearance from any obstruction on non-grab bar side | Min 420 510 mm | Min 510 mm | 3.8.5.5.(1)(b) |

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|---|--|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Zoning Bylaw 8500 | | BCBC 2006 | |
| 4.16.23.(a) Clearance from any obstruction in front of the toilet | Min 1020 800 mm | Min 800 mm | 3.8.5.5.(1)(a) |
| 4.16.23.(b) Clear area in front of the sink | 760 x 1220 mm | 760 x 1220 mm | 3.8.5.5.(c) |
| 4.16.23.(c) Minimum clear area measured from foot of tub | 914 510 mm | 510 mm | 3.8.5.5.(1)(b) |
| 4.16.23.(d) Structural enforcement in walls behind and beside the toilet, bathtub and shower | Required | Required | 3.8.5.5.(2) |
| 4.16.23.(e) Easy to grasp handles on faucets | Required | Required | 3.7.2.10.(5)(d) 3.7.2.10.(10)(b) |
| 4.16.24. At least one bathroom that serves common amenity space have to be wheelchair accessible as per BCBC | Required | Required | 3.8.2.31.(1)(a) 3.8.2.3.(1)(d) |
| 4.16.25.(a) Some accessible counter space and cupboards in the kitchen | Required | Required | 3.8.5.6.(1) |
| 4.16.25.(b) Easy to grasp handles on faucets in kitchens | Required | Required | |
| 4.16.25.(c) Easy to reach and grasp handles on cupboards | Required Take out this requirement | Not required | |
| 4.16.25.(d) Task lighting at sink, stove and key working areas | Required Take out this requirement | Not required | |

| RICHMOND ZONING BYLAW & BC BUILDING CODE COMPARISON TABLE | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Zoning Bylaw 8500 | | BCBC 2006 | |
| 4.16.25.(e) Plumbing and utility pipes located to provide a potential 810 mm wide space under the counter | Required | Not required | |
| 4.16.26. Sufficient space to provide a turning diameter of 1500 mm on one side of a double bed in at least one bedroom | Required | Required | 3.8.3.14.(1)(a) |
| 4.16.27. Clothes closet in at least one bedroom to have clear opening of 900 mm, clear floor space of at least 750 x 1200 mm and clothes hanger rod that can be lowered to 1200 mm | Required | Required + one shelf that can be lowered to 1200 mm | 3.8.3.14.(1)(d) |
| 4.16.28. Minimum clear opening of access doors to patios and balconies | 860 Min 800 mm | Not required | |
| 4.16.29. Minimum dimensions of any balcony or patio | 1500 mm x 1500 mm <u>Add clarification that this requirement does not apply to "Juliet" or "French" style of balcony</u> | 1500 mm deep x 1300 mm wide (for non sprinklered buildings only) | 3.8.3.19.(1)(c) 3.8.3.19.(5) |



**Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500
Amendment Bylaw 8736
Basic Universal Housing Features**

The Council of the City of Richmond, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, as amended, is further amended:
 - a) at section 4.16.5. by deleting “855.0 mm” and substituting “850.0 mm”.
 - b) by deleting section 4.16.6. in its entirety and substituting the following:

“4.16.6. The minimum clear opening for the interior doors to at least one **bedroom**, one accessible bathroom and to common living areas in every **dwelling unit** shall be no less than 800.0 mm (which will be provided by a swing door).”
 - c) at section 4.16.11.a) by deleting “1220.0 mm” and substituting “1500.0 mm” in the text and in Figure 2, and by adding at the end of the text in this section:

“This requirement to apply to door assemblies to one bathroom and one bedroom in 2 bedroom and larger dwelling units.”
 - d) at section 4.16.11.b) by deleting “600.0 mm” and substituting “300.0 mm” in the text and in Figure 3, and by adding at the end of the text in this section:

“This requirement to apply to door assemblies to common living areas in every dwelling unit, and one bathroom and one bedroom in 2 bedroom and larger dwelling units.”
 - e) at section 4.16.11.d) by adding “300.0 mm or” before “600.0 mm”;
 - f) at section 4.16.12. by adding at the end of the text in this section:

“and provide a clear area not less than 1500.0 mm by 1500.0 mm adjacent to the elevator entrance.”
 - g) at section 4.16.13. by adding at the end of the text in this section:

“This requirement does not apply to exterior balcony, patio and deck door sills.”
 - h) by deleting section 4.16.18. in its entirety and substituting the following:

"4.16.18. Light switches and electrical panels shall be 900.0 to 1200.0 mm from the floor. Intercom buttons shall be a maximum 1375.0 mm from the floor."

i) at section 4.16.19. by deleting "not less than 450.0 mm" and substituting "455.0 mm to 1200.0 mm".

j) at section 4.16.20. by deleting "1350.0 mm" and substituting "1200.0 mm".

k) by deleting section 4.16.23.a) in its entirety and substituting the following:

"a) have a toilet positioned with the centre line of the toilet 420.0 mm to 480.0 mm from a side wall on which a grab bar can be installed and at least 510.0 mm from any obstruction on the non-grab bar side and at least 800.0 mm from any obstruction in front of the toilet; and"

l) at section 4.16.23.c) by deleting "914.0 mm" and substituting "510.0 mm" in the text and in Figure 6.

m) at section 4.16.28. by deleting "860.0 mm" and substituting "800.0 mm".

n) at section 4.16.29. by adding at the end of the text in this section:

"This requirement does not apply to "Juliet" or "French" style of balcony or patio."

2. This Bylaw may be cited as "Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, Amendment Bylaw 8736".

FIRST READING

PUBLIC HEARING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

JUL 09 2012

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| CITY OF RICHMOND |
| APPROVED by  |
| APPROVED by Director or Solicitor  |

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER