



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** January 23, 2018
From: Cecilia Achiam, MCIP, BCSLA **File:** 12-8275-01/2018-Vol 01
General Manager, Community Safety
Re: **Business Licences Quarterly Report – Fourth Quarter 2017**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Business Licences Quarterly Report – Fourth Quarter 2017”, dated January 23, 2018, from the General Manager Community Safety be received for information.

Cecilia Achiam, MCIP, BCSLA
General Manager, Community Safety
(604-276-4122)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: CA
APPROVED BY GAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides a quarterly summary of activities in support of the regulation of business licences in the City of Richmond and supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #8 Supportive Economic Development Environment:

8.1. Richmond's policies, programs, and processes are business-friendly.

Analysis

Business Licence Revenue

Revenue from all businesses licences increased 4.5 per cent over revenue collected in 2016. The number of new businesses, those businesses not previously licenced, is also up 5.7 per cent since last year. These statistics are illustrated in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Business Licence Revenue for 2015-2017

	2017	2016	2015
New Businesses	1801	1704	1651
Revenue (from Licences)	\$ 3,884,271	\$ 3,716,597	\$ 3,647,645

Application Processing

The licencing process ensures that businesses have received all required approvals from those organizations that regulate health and safety as well as any other municipal, provincial or federal requirements. This process should be both timely and thorough.

Table 2 shows the measures that staff use to assess the current process. Expired Licences are those licenses that, for one reason or another, have not been renewed. Staff have to follow up on licences to see if the business closed or if it is still operating (but without a valid licence). Suspended or Pending Applications are those businesses that have applied for a new licence or a change to their existing licence. Staff must track these applications to ensure that inspections and permits are issued without delay so that businesses can open as soon as possible. Both of these figures have decreased in 2017, indicating improvements to the applications process.

Table 2: Status and Number of Business Licences

	2016 Q2	2016 Q3	2016 Q4	2017 Q1	2017 Q2	2017 Q3	2017 Q4
Valid Licences	13,407	13,402	13,253	13,242	13,912	14,062	13,870
Expired Licences	1,882	1,870	1,975	2,192	1,496	941	944
Suspended and Pending Applications	487	576	443	450	420	371	329
Total	15,776	15,848	15,671	15,884	15,828	15,374	15,143

Business Licence Enforcement

The revenue collected from bylaw fines and tickets related to licencing has increased substantially in 2017 (shown below in Table 3). This increase is due to:

- New ticketing provisions for to signs and short term rentals;
- Increasing the fine for operating a business without a licence from \$100 to \$1,000; and
- Increasing number of staff available for inspections and enforcement.

This revenue is not expected to grow at the same rate in 2018 but rather it should stabilize.

Table 3: Revenue from Tickets

	2017	2016	2015
Revenue from Tickets	\$ 16,350	\$ 1,700	\$ 8,951

Illegal Ride Hailing

One of the priorities for business licence enforcement is illegal ride hailing. Staff have identified five or six apps that can be accessed by the public to hail vehicles which are operating as illegal taxicabs. Enforcement officers from the City of Richmond are working alongside officers from the Passenger Transportation Board and the RCMP to identify and issue tickets to any drivers offering illegal ride hailing services. While enforcement operations have been successful in the short term (drivers have been stopped and ticketed), it is too early to determine if these operations will have long term success and prevent drivers from entering the illegal market.

Bed and Breakfast Businesses

As of the end of 2017, there were 50 licenced Bed and Breakfast businesses (“B&B’s”). The updated list of businesses is routinely sent to Council and staff have been developing a process to add these locations to the City’s website as a layer on the Richmond Interactive Map (“RIM”). It is expected that this layer will be made available to the public by the end of the first quarter of 2018. In the meantime, the updated map showing all 50 locations is provided with this report as Attachment 1.

Financial Impact

None.

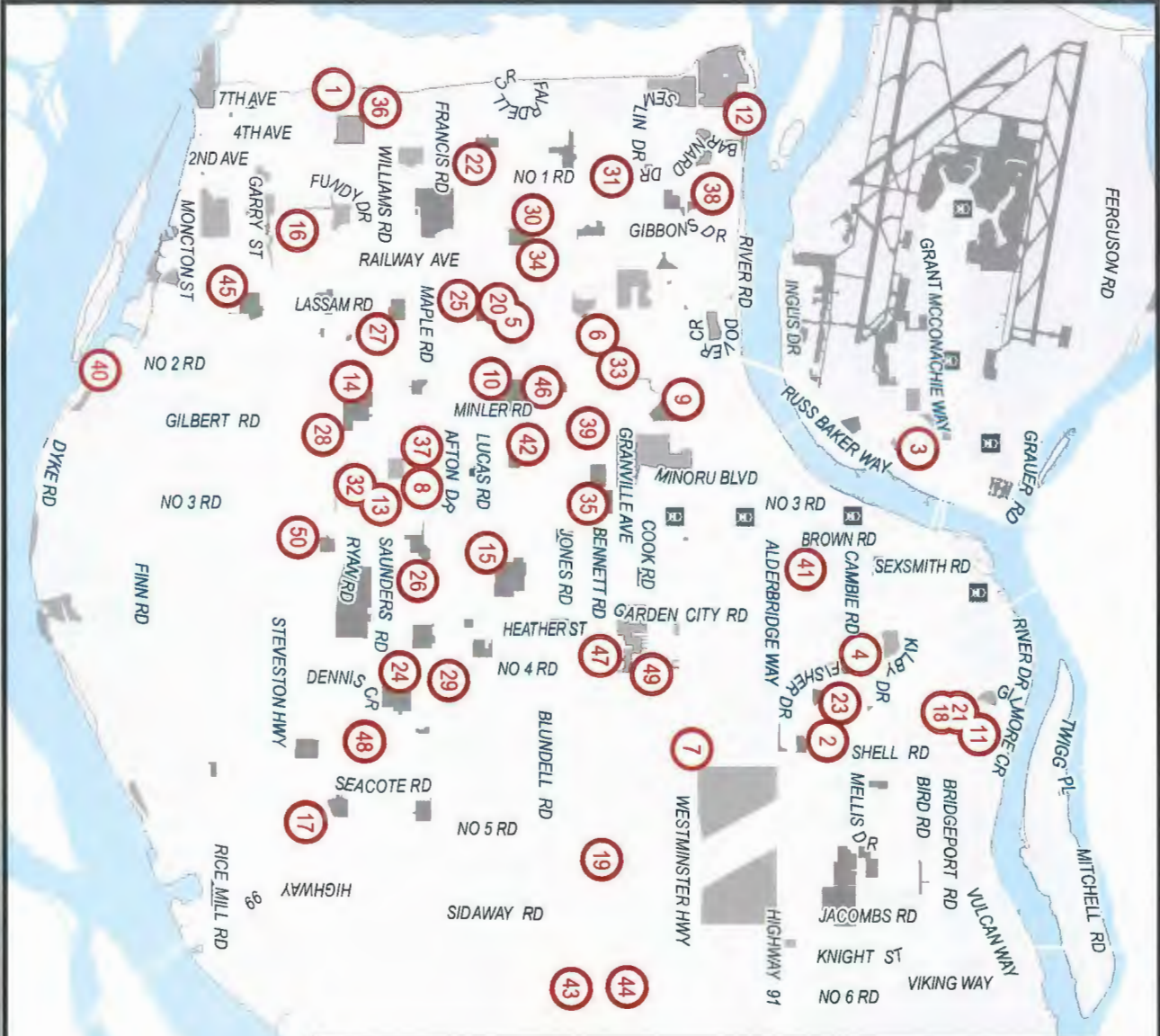
Conclusion

This report provides an update on fourth quarter statistics to the Community Safety Committee from the Business Licences department. The statistics and commentary provided in this report will inform discussions related to policy, staffing and resources for licences and permits related to businesses.



Carli Edwards, P.Eng.
Acting Senior Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs and Licencing
(604-276-4136)

Att. 1: Map showing licenced Bed and Breakfast businesses



- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. The Seabreeze Guest House | 26. Vickie's Bed & Breakfast |
| 2. Freda's Bed & Breakfast | 27. Perch House |
| 3. Chestnut Tree B & B | 28. Teresa's B & B |
| 4. Eisie's Bed & Breakfast | 29. Una Inn |
| 5. The Stone Hedge B & B | 30. Susan's B & B |
| 6. Stay At Dejavu | 31. Casamia |
| 7. Best Home Inn | 32. Shan Dong Ren Jia |
| 8. Lido Family Guest Home | 33. Peter Luu |
| 9. WenXin House | 34. Home of Glory |
| 10. Richmond B & B | 35. Xin Xin Bed and Breakfast |
| 11. Happy Star | 36. Jessicahouse Ltd B&B |
| 12. Algae Fresh Rental | 37. Enjoy Journey Resort Villa |
| 13. Pacific B & B | 38. Fraser River Richmond Bed & Breakfast |
| 14. Mei Xue B and B | 39. Irene Sweet Inn |
| 15. Feng Lu House | 40. Abercrombie House B&B |
| 16. Caryatt | 41. Lucky Star Homes |
| 17. Seahurst House | 42. Vancouver Cozy Home |
| 18. Lulu Island Guestrooms | 43. Happy Farm B&B |
| 19. Castle Living Bed & Breakfast | 44. Austin |
| 20. Vancouver Luxury Homestay | 45. Kuai Le Lao Jia |
| 21. Ingrid Seel | 46. Go House Bed & Breakfast |
| 22. J-Home | 47. Maple Bridge B and B |
| 23. Bryson Home | 48. Leisure Vacation |
| 24. Hua Ting Bed & Breakfast | 49. Jia Hua B&B |
| 25. Alibaba's House | 50. Snoopy B & B |

REDMS 5722794

Bed and Breakfast Locations

January 18 2018

Source: CITYHALL-#5225438-v1-B_&_B_s_Inventory_-_Bed_&_Breakfast.xls

Note:
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