

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title:	Amendments to the Open Air Fire Regulations
Date Prepared:	May 14, 2024
Report To:	Committee of the Whole
Councillor and Role:	Councillor Sandy Hickman, Transportation and Regulatory Services
Ward:	N/A

Decision/Direction Required:

Council's approval of the amendments to the Open Air fire Regulations is requested.

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

The Open Air Fire Regulations By-Law is being amended to update and regulate the use of modern outdoor wood burning appliances.

Some new definitions are being added in order to modernize the Regulations (for example, the definitions of 'open air fire' and 'outdoor wood burning appliance'); some definitions are updating the definitions that are currently in place (for example, 'fire chief' and 'fire department') in order to reflect how these roles and departments are currently referred to.

The provisions related to outdoor wood burning appliances (section 3.1(1) and (2)) are being amended to ensure that the City's Fire Department can enforce open air fires while still allowing people to be able to have outdoor fires should the conditions allow.

The amendments related to blanket prohibitions of open air fires (section 3.2(a)) is being made to ensure that modern wood burning appliances are captured by the prohibition outlined in this section. As well, the section exempting outdoor grills and barbecues from such a prohibition is being repealed; this is so the Fire Department can judge whether it is appropriate to allow the use of such equipment on a case-by-case basis if/when conditions result in a prohibition.

Section 9 is being amended to make clear the requirements of the permit application process, as well as the permit holder's responsibilities following the issuance of the permit.

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: N/A
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: All City Departments/Divisions, General Public

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3. Is this a New Plan or Strategy: No

4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

An Effective City: Work with our employees to improve organizational performance through effective processes and policies.

A Sustainable City: Plan for land use and preserve and enhance the natural and built environment where we live.

5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: N/A

6. Accessibility and Inclusion: N/A

4. Legal or Policy Implications: The amendments to the Open Air Fire Regulations will need to be advertised before coming legally into effect.

5. Privacy Implications: N/A

6. Engagement and Communications Considerations: The amendments to the Open Air Fire Regulations will need to be advertised in the local newspaper, the King's Printer Gazette and posted on the City's website.

7. Human Resource Implications: N/A

8. Procurement Implications: N/A

9. Information Technology Implications: N/A

10. Other Implications: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve the proposed amendments to the Open Air Fire Regulations.

Prepared by: Robert Fedder

Approved by: Cheryl Mullett

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Amendments to the Open Air Fire Regulations (2024).docx
Attachments:	- Open Air Fire Regulations Amd No 1-2024.docx
Final Approval Date:	May 16, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Cheryl Mullett - May 16, 2024 - 1:27 PM

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Amendment to Open Air Fire Regulations (2024).docx
Attachments:	- Open Air Fire Regulations Amd No 1-2024.docx
Final Approval Date:	May 23, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Cheryl Mullett - May 23, 2024 - 9:47 AM