From: D. Grant
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:29 AM
To: Nuytten, Kathy
Subject: Re: FW: Winnipeg.ca : Other - to speak in Delegation

2020 02 11 EPC

Reducing the harmful effects of RED TAPE on the good people of Winnipeg.

As I pointed out about 2 years ago to EPC, there are more than 600 bylaws for which each of us can be fined. How many have each of you read? You can read them all in an evening, I have, but no one will call you “the life of the party” if you do!

Being careful, and trying to do your job right will not help.

Proper regulation of a place begins with proper engineering and common sense laws.

Ask your selves how well this has been done across our city.

The normal second step is educating the public. When most people are completely unaware of most of your bylaws, you have failed to educate them. When ticketing is the first step, and warnings are seldom seen, you miss an opportunity, as you create widespread resentment.

Tickets should be the last step, reserved for those who know better. If you have warned a person, and they have time to comply, you know they need this third step.

Let me remind you of some of the most unreasonable bylaws. If you have a long driveway, and host a family dinner on a Sunday or holiday, expect your guests to get very expensive tickets in the mail. How many of you knew that your 3rd and so on guests are violating your livability bylaw? How does having Christmas dinner harm the neighbourhood? At election time, we hear politicians talk about bringing folks together to celebrate, then, if they do, your enforcers hand hundreds in fines to your guests!

We have seen that our hardworking building repair tradesmen face repeated fines. Why do you mostly fine infill workers? Are your bylaw folks cruising through brand new streets, pouncing when you see a house where the window company is due to arrive tomorrow?

Companies (who have been fined) stock only plywood and OSB already painted, so when they have to board up a fire ravaged house, they will not be fined for a piece of unpainted wood.

Some people want their neighbours to tell them to paint their house according to rules. Those folks tend to select a HOA, home owners association. Don't force everyone to live that way. Some folks enjoy the look of bare cedar wood, or of treated boards. They pay extra for this natural look. Don't make they slop paint on their fence, or house trim bits, just to escape fines.

I asked EPC in 2018 to review every bylaw, to make sure each one makes this city a better place to live. Please take action, so your voters will not face fines for loading up the family boat on the day you leave for the lake, for having a family dinner, of for having your house fixed up.