Analysis of Tiny Homes

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Item 6.2 Urban Planning Committee, September 3, 2019

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Edmonton

Background





ACTION 3

Investigate opportunities for tiny homes and find multiple ways to accommodate them. At the October 30, 2018, Urban Planning Committee meeting, the following motion was passed:

"That Administration provide a report with an analysis of the tiny home industry including tiny homes on wheels."

Defining Tiny Homes





- Two types:
 - tiny homes on foundation
 - tiny homes on wheels
- Usually under 40 m²
- Self-contained with the same components of a dwelling

Tiny Home Industry





- Increasing demand
- Regulatory hurdles / Unclear standards
- Tiny homes for year-round residence

Jurisdictional Scan





- No big cities allow tiny homes on wheels
- Smaller municipalities that regulate tiny homes:
 - typically require
 permanent foundations
 - restrict tiny homes to specific zones or as accessory dwellings

Zoning Regulations



Tiny Homes Built On-site



Tiny Homes Built Off-site

- Tiny Manufactured Homes
- Tiny Homes on Wheels



Zoning Regulations



In any Zone, other than the RMH Zone, **Mobile Homes** developed as Single Detached Housing must be:

- at least 5.5 metres (18 ft.) wide
- placed on a permanent foundation

Minimum building widths do not apply to site-built houses.

Building & Safety Codes





Tiny Homes On-wheels:

• Not addressed in building code

Tiny Homes On-foundation:

• Limits designs commonly associated with tiny homes (e.g. sleeping lofts)

Changes Informed by Stakeholder Feedback



- Regulations to screen exposed utilities for tiny homes on wheels
- Expand opportunities of tiny mobile homes as Garden Suites
- Delay zoning amendments for tiny homes on wheels until direction is provided by the Province

Proposed Changes for <u>Stationary</u> Tiny Homes



- Allow small Mobile Homes, without wheels, as Single Detached Houses and Garden Suites, provided:
 - towing apparatus, axle and wheels are removed
 - they are placed on a foundation
- Introduce performance standards to require skirting or foundation to screen undercarriage of building

Conclusion





Administration recommends:

Preparing amendments to Zoning Bylaw 12800 to further enable tiny homes on foundations and return to a future Public Hearing.

Proposed Changes for Recreational Vehicles







- Introduce a definition for Recreational Vehicles
- Establish a penalty for using a Recreational Vehicle as a Dwelling

Moving Permits



Permit required by Traffic Operations when load is greater than:

- 2.6 m wide
- 4.1 m tall
- 23 m long



Utilities and Servicing



- Homes fixed to a foundation will have the same utility connections as Single Detached Housing and Garden Suites
- Tiny Homes on Wheels would have utility connections similar to Mobile Homes
 - Reconnectable, concrete pedestal and frost protection.