



## ***UNSIGHTLY PREMISES REGULATION***

### **BYLAW NO. 7162**

EFFECTIVE DATE – JULY 23, 2001

#### **CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY**

This is a consolidation of the bylaws below. The amendment bylaws have been combined with the original bylaw for convenience only. This consolidation is not a legal document. Certified copies of the original bylaws should be consulted for all interpretations and applications of the bylaws on this subject.

<u>AMENDMENT BYLAW</u>	<u>DATE OF ADOPTION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u> (If different from Date of Adoption)
Bylaw No. 9718	October 23, 2017	
Bylaw No. 9766	October 23, 2017	

CITY OF RICHMOND

***UNSIGHTLY PREMISES REGULATION***

**BYLAW NO. 7162**

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CITY OF RICHMOND  
***UNSIGHTLY PREMISES REGULATION***  
**BYLAW NO. 7162**

**PART ONE: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**1.1 Property Owner or Occupier Prohibitions**

1.1.1 An owner or occupier of real property must not:

- (a) allow such property to become or remain unsightly; or,
- (b) cause or permit **rubbish**, noxious, offensive or unwholesome matter or substance, filth or discarded materials to collect or to accumulate on or around such property.

**1.2 Property Owner or Occupier Obligations**

1.2.1 The owner or occupier of real property, or their agents, must:

- (a) remove or cause to be removed from the real property, any **rubbish**, or noxious, offensive or unwholesome matter or substance, or any unsightly accumulation of **rubbish**, filth, discarded materials or **graffiti**;
- (b) clear or cause such property to be cleared of unsightly brush, trees, weeds or other growth; and
- (c) keep grass trimmed to a height of not more than 20 centimetres.

**1.3 Graffiti Prohibition**

1.3.1 A person must not place **graffiti** on walls, fences, or elsewhere on or adjacent to a public place.

**PART TWO: ORDER TO COMPLY**

**2.1 Serving of an Order to Comply**

2.1.1 Where an owner or occupier, or their agents fail to comply with any of the provisions of section 1.1 or 1.2, a **Bylaw Enforcement Officer** may, in accordance with subsection 2.1.3, serve an **Order to Comply** on such person, which requires the person to remove or clear the **offending material** from the real property within 14 days of service of such **Order to Comply**.

2.1.2 Where an **Order to Comply** has been served in accordance with subsection 2.1.1 and the **Bylaw Enforcement Officer** is satisfied that special circumstances exist, the **Bylaw Enforcement Officer** may set a time to comply, other than 14 days, that is reasonable in the circumstances.

2.1.3 The **Bylaw Enforcement Officer** must serve the **Order to Comply**:

(a) on the owner of the real property on which the **offending material** is located, by either:

(i) personal service, or

(ii) registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt, to the address of the owner shown on the last real property assessment rolls;

provided that where the owner is a registered company, service may be accomplished according to the provisions of the *Company Act*; and

(b) on the occupier of the real property on which the **offending material** is located, by either:

(i) personal service,

(ii) delivery to a mail box or other receptacle for messages, if any, on the real property, or

(iii) posting on the real property; and

(c) on any agent of the owner or occupier of the real property on which the **offending material** is located, by either:

(i) personal service, or

(ii) registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt.

2.1.4 When an **Order to Comply** is not personally served in accordance with clause (a)(i), (b)(i), or (c)(i) of subsection 2.1.3, whichever is applicable, such order is deemed to have been served:

(a) on the third day after mailing in accordance with clause (a)(ii) or (c)(ii), whichever is applicable;

(b) upon delivery in accordance with clause (b)(ii); or

(c) upon posting in accordance with clause (b)(iii).

## 2.2 Authority to Enter Property in connection with an Order to Comply

2.2.1 A **Bylaw Enforcement Officer** may enter, at all reasonable times, upon any real property to determine whether the provisions of this bylaw or the directions of an **Order to Comply** are being complied with.

- 2.2.2 If the owner or the occupier of such property, or their agents fail to remove or clear the **offending material** from the real property as directed in an **Order to Comply**, **City** staff, or a contractor engaged by the **City**, may enter on the real property, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, to remove or clear the **offending material** at the expense of the defaulting owner or occupier of the real property, or their agents.
- 2.2.3 Where **offending material** has been removed or cleared in accordance with subsection 2.2.2, the charges for such removal or clearance, if unpaid on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year in which the charges are incurred, form part of the taxes payable on such property, as taxes in arrears.

**2.3 Appeal Against an Order to Comply**

- 2.3.1 A person upon whom an **Order to Comply** has been served may, by giving notice in writing to the **City Clerk** at least 72 hours prior to the expiration of the time given in the **Order to Comply** to remove or clear the **offending material**, appeal to **Council**, who must hear and determine the appeal by confirming, amending or rescinding the **Order to Comply**.

**PART THREE: INTERPRETATION**

- 3.1 In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

<b>BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</b>	means an employee of the <b>City</b> , appointed to the job position or title of bylaw enforcement officer or licence inspector, or acting in another capacity, on behalf of the <b>City</b> for the purpose of the enforcement of one or more of the <b>City</b> bylaws.
<b>CITY</b>	means the City of Richmond.
<b>CITY CLERK</b>	means the Municipal Officer appointed by <b>Council</b> and assigned responsibility for corporate administration for the <b>City</b> under Section 198 of the <i>Local Government Act</i> .
<b>COUNCIL</b>	means the Council of the <b>City</b> .
<b>GRAFFITI</b>	means an inscription, drawing, writing, pictorial representation, message or slogan, made on a wall, fence or other surface by means of paint, chalk, ink or other substance, or by chisel, hammer, stone or other device, excluding signs permitted pursuant to the current Sign Regulation Bylaw.
<b>MANAGER OF COMMUNITY BYLAWS</b>	means the Manager of Community Bylaws in the Community Safety Division of the <b>City</b> .

<b>OFFENDING MATERIAL</b>	means any material or substance, including <b>graffiti</b> , which this bylaw requires owners, occupiers or their agents to remove or clear from their real properties.
<b>ORDER TO COMPLY</b>	means an order, which is substantially in the form of Schedule A attached to and forming a part of this bylaw.
<b>RUBBISH</b>	includes, but is not limited to, discarded bottles, broken glass, motor vehicle parts and any derelict or partially dismantled motor vehicle.

## **PART FOUR: OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

**[4.1]**<sup>1</sup> Any person who:

- (a) violates or contravenes any provision of this bylaw, or who causes or allows any provision of this bylaw to be violated or contravened; or
- (b) fails to comply with any of the provisions of this bylaw, any other **City** bylaw, or any applicable statute; or
- (c) neglects or refrains from doing anything required under the provisions of this bylaw; or
- (d) obstructs, or seeks or attempts to prevent or obstruct a person who is involved in the execution of duties under this bylaw,

commits an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), in addition to the costs of the prosecution, and where the offence is a continuing one, each day that the offence is continued shall constitute a separate offence..

## **PART FIVE: PREVIOUS BYLAW REPEAL**

- 5.1** Unsightly Premises Bylaw No. 6349 (adopted October 11, 1994) is repealed.
- 5.2** Noxious Weed and Weed Seed Control Bylaw No. 2218 (adopted March 21, 1966) is repealed.

## **PART SIX: SEVERABILITY AND CITATION**

- 6.1** If any part, section, sub-section, clause, or sub-clause of this bylaw is, for any reason, held to be invalid by the decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.
- 6.2** This bylaw is cited as “**Unsightly Premises Regulation Bylaw No. 7162**”.

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<sup>1</sup> **Consolidation Note:** The amending bylaw, Housekeeping (Amendments) Bylaw No. 9718, included an error in the section numbering. During consolidation, the section number under Part Four was corrected to read “4.1” instead of “8.1”. This typographical error can be addressed and updated as part of a future amendment.

**SCHEDULE A to BYLAW NO. 7162**

Date:

**ORDER TO COMPLY**

Pursuant to the Unsightly Premises Regulation Bylaw  
and the *Local Government Act*

**Civic Address**      ✪ <civic>, Richmond, BC

**Legal Description**    Lot ✪ Block ✪ Section ✪ Block ✪ North Range ✪ West  
New Westminster District Plan ✪

You are hereby ordered to bring the condition of this property into conformity with Unsightly Premises Bylaw No. 7162 and the *Local Government Act* by ✪ <date>, by doing the following:

- (a)      ✪ <(action words) details>;
- (b)      ✪ <(action words first)>;
- (c)      ✪; and
- (d)      ✪.

Details on the Order to Comply process, including appeals, are detailed in the attached letter.