

# CITY OF BURNABY COUNCIL IN BRIEF

**February 26, 2024**

*This is an overview of the City Council meeting for this date. For a full account, visit [Burnaby.ca/eagenda](https://burnaby.ca/eagenda)*

## » [6.1 Culture Special Events Program Review](#)

City Council received an update from staff on plans to improve the City's various cultural events and festivals, including Burnaby Blooms. City Council also directed staff to explore the possibility of expanding the Burnaby Blues + Roots Festival to a multi-day event at Deer Lake.

## » [6.2 CI - Progressive Design Build - James Cowan Theatre Redevelopment Project - Phase II](#)

City Council approved a \$52 million contract to complete the design and construction of the new James Cowan Theatre at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts. The total project cost is estimated at \$55 million. The existing James Cowan Theatre was constructed as a gymnasium in the 1940s and converted into a theatre in 1995. The building needs significant upgrades, is past its useful service life and is not wheelchair accessible.

## » [6.7 Heritage Designation of Eagle Ford Neon Sign](#)

City Council directed staff to prepare a heritage designation bylaw to preserve and protect the Eagle Ford Neon Sign in the Burnaby Heights neighbourhood. Council also directed staff to add the Eagle Ford Neon Sign to the Burnaby Community Heritage Register. This historic neon sign was first installed more than 70 years ago on Hastings Street and was later acquired by the City in 2012 for the purpose of its restoration as a civic heritage landmark.

## » [8.7 Planning and Development Committee - RE: Rental Housing Summary](#)

City Council received an update from staff on the City's progress towards its rental housing targets. A total of 349 new units of rental housing were completed in Burnaby between April 3, 2023 and December 31, 2023. Of these, 112 are non-market units, which means they will be offered at below-market rates. Also, a total of 1,417 rental units were under construction during this same period. There are currently over 19,000 rental units across all stages of the development process in Burnaby, of which 16,500 are net new units.

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