CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date:

July 16, 2008

File No.:

3900-01

To:

City Manager

From:

Inspection Services Manager

Subject:

Fortified Buildings Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council direct staff to proceed with drafting a Fortified Buildings Bylaw.

BACKGROUND:

Staff has explored whether the City has the authority to regulate the fortification of buildings pursuant to the City's building regulation authority contained in the *Community Charter*. The BC Building Code does not address the fortification of buildings. Fortified buildings can be a safety hazard for both those occupying such buildings as the fortification modifications can impair their ability to exit the building in case of emergency, and for first responders who may have to enter such a building in the course of their duties.

Ministry of Housing and Social Development staff has indicated they are willing to review a draft bylaw from the City and are interested in the approach Kelowna is proposing.

Staff requires direction from Council to proceed with the drafting of a fortification bylaw.

INTERNAL CIRCULATION TO:

City Clerk

LEGAL/STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

Community Charter section 8(3)(I); Buildings and Other Structures Bylaw Regulation.

LEGAL/STATUTORY PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS:

Community Charter section 9(1)(d) - Adopting such a bylaw may require approval of the Province.

EXTERNAL AGENCY/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Inspection Services staff have had preliminary conversations with the Building and Safety Policy Branch, Office of Housing and Construction Standards, Ministry of Housing and Social Development. Ministry staff has indicated they are willing to review a draft bylaw from the City and are interested in the approach Kelowna is proposing.

The Kelowna Detachment, RCMP is supportive of staff proceeding with a Fortified Buildings Bylaw.

ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Report of the Inspection Services Manager dated July 16, 2008 be received for information.

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Considerations that were not applicable to this report:

EXISTING POLICY:

FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS:

Submitted by?

Ron Dickinson, RBO

cc: City Clerk