

From: **"Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>**
To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**
Date: 4/19/2023 12:15:11 PM
Subject: False Creek Navigation Channel Buoys
Attachments: ENG - Memo - False Creek Navigation Channel Buoys.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire on False Creek Navigation Channel Buoys. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- This proposed project would add to existing buoys extending marking of the marine navigation channel for boaters at the eastern end of False Creek.
- The purpose of the project is to:
 - provide guidance to waterway users, particularly during poor weather and at night;
 - assist the Vancouver Police Department Marine Unit in their the enforcement of the False Creek anchoring regulations and;
 - support the Canadian Coast Guard, and Transport Canada in their actions to remove derelict boats and respond to marine emergencies.
- Starting this month, staff will be communicating further with stakeholder user groups who actively use the eastern portion of the navigation channel in False Creek to make them aware of the project and where possible incorporate feedback.
- Installation of the new buoys is expected to be complete by Summer 2023.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

April 19, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Acting Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Director of Operations, Mayor's Office
Paul Storer, Director of Transportation

FROM: Lon LaClaire
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: False Creek Navigation Channel Buoys

RTS #: N/A

This memo provides information on the planned placement of new navigation channel marker buoys in the False Creek waterway east of the Cambie Street Bridge.

Background

- The navigation channel in False Creek was first identified prior to Expo '86. The channel was marked with buoys by Transport Canada between the Granville Street and Cambie Street bridges for the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. The eastern terminus of False Creek was not marked with channel buoys due to the overall closure of the area east of Cambie to boating traffic during the games.
- The navigation channel area forms part of the 2009 Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Transport Canada concerning the City's administration and management of the False Creek Anchoring permit system on behalf of the Government of Canada.
- Buoys are beneficial infrastructure as they:
 - provide guidance to waterway users, particularly during poor weather conditions and at night;
 - assist the Vancouver Police Department Marine Unit and the City in their the enforcement of the False Creek anchoring regulations and removal of derelict boats
 - support the Canadian Coast Guard, and Transport Canada in their actions to remove derelict boats and respond to marine emergencies.

- In 2022, using the historical location coordinates provided by Transport Canada, the City replaced and upgraded (14) navigation buoys between the Cambie Street and Granville Street bridges (See Appendix B Layout Map).

Planned Project Scope

This proposed project would add to existing buoys extending marking of the navigation channel to the eastern end of False Creek next to Science World as well as one buoy fronting the David Lam Water Taxi ferry dock to improve access for ferries. A proposed layout diagram based on initial feedback from stakeholders is attached for reference (for more information and map see Appendix B). Each buoy would be similar in appearance to those previously installed in order to meet Federal marine navigation requirements and Transport Canada design criteria. Each buoy would be anchored on the seabed of False Creek and would require a Federal Fisheries Act authorization permit prior to installation. Final locations would be documented on public navigation charts, include solar lanterns and reflective markings for visibility, and would be maintained by the City.

Planned Engagement

Given that federal design requirements must be met as part of this work, there are limited opportunities to make significant changes based on engagement. Starting this spring, staff will be communicating further with stakeholder user groups who actively use the eastern portion of the navigation channel in False Creek, including the False Creek Rowing Club, False Creek Racing Canoe Club, Four Fires Festival Organizers and the False Creek Water Taxi Ferry Companies. The City's public boating website and 311 service will also be updated to inform the public about the project.

Where possible, stakeholder feedback will be reflected in the final layout, location and number of buoys. Additionally, staff will monitor the buoy locations following installation and continue to work with external as well as internal stakeholders including the VPD Marine Unit and Park Board to share information as well as receive feedback during this period and make adjustments to buoy locations if needed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 604.873.7336 or lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca.



Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services

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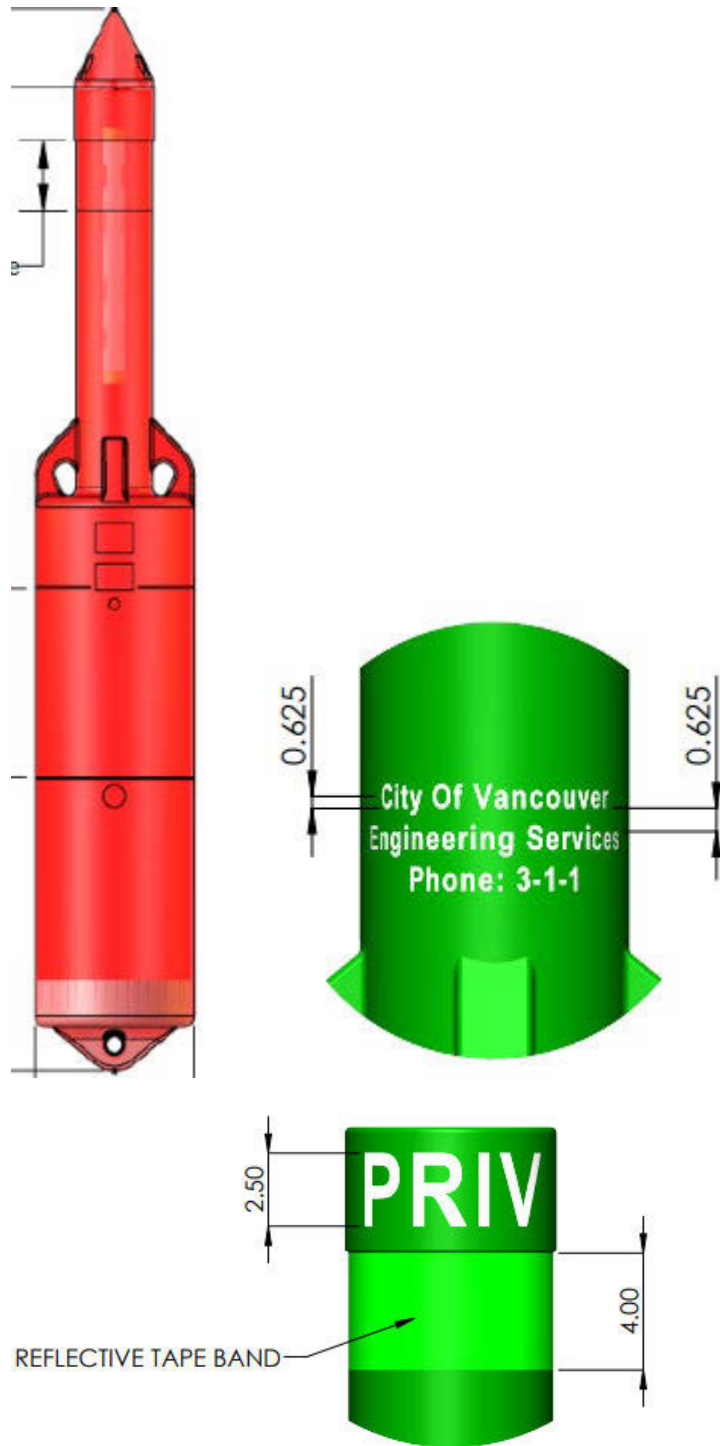
Appendix A: Transportation Blueways Program Background

The Blueways transportation program is undertaken by Engineering Services in support of water based transportation objectives including:

- Developing, expanding, and maintaining a system of public docks and wharves in False Creek, which support both public use and the water taxi ferry service.
- Overseeing a legal agreement and memorandum of understanding with Transport Canada, for the City to administer the False Creek anchoring permit program on Transport Canada's behalf.
- Working with the Vancouver Police Department Marine Unit to advertise and support enforcement of the marine speed restriction of 5 knots or 10 km/h for boaters and watercraft users in False Creek
- Working with federal agencies support enforcement and response to marine emergencies and wrecked and abandoned vessels at City owned docks, seawalls, marinas and coastal areas and;
- Installing and expanding marine infrastructure for public boaters and user groups in False Creek including marine signage and buoys.

In 2022, Blueways program staff led development and implementation of the City's first comprehensive Wharf By-law for City-owned docks and waterfront properties. Blueways staff also led a series of infrastructure improvements to City-owned marine infrastructure including buoys, public wharves and signage. In partnership with VPD, Park Board, Transport Canada and the Canadian Coast Guard, Blueways staff also led coordination to remove derelict and hazardous boats from False Creek and on behalf of the City led a series of operational improvement to the False Creek anchoring permit system. In 2022, over 30 illegally anchored, derelict or abandoned boats being relocated or removed from False Creek and nearby waterways.

Appendix B: Navigation Channel Buoy Examples and Layout Map**



*Buoy Color (Red or Green) Depending on Location to meet Navigation Requirements

**Labelling and Decals to Meet Transport Canada Requirements for Navigation Marker Buoys

False Creek Channel Buoy Installation Photo July 2022



Proposed Channel Buoy Layout Map- False Creek East Basin

City of Vancouver False Creek Lateral Buoy Replacement Project

