

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
CC: ["City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"](#)
["LaClaire, Lon" <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)
Date: 4/23/2021 2:28:43 PM
Subject: BSP and Patios on Main Street

Dear Mayor and Council,

I want to update you on the Broadway Subway sewer-relocation work that has posed a risk to a handful of businesses with curbside patios on a one- to two-block section of Main Street south of Broadway.

I'm pleased to share that we will be able to modify traffic-management plans, at least for a time. For the first week of the sewer relocation work (April 26 – May 2), the Province's contractor won't implement a queue-jumper lane for buses. This may add to traffic congestion, but will mean that we don't have to remove curbside restaurant patios in this section.

We will monitor traffic flow to understand whether the trade-offs are manageable. With buses carrying thousands of people along Main Street every day, many of whom are essential workers, we will need to assess the impact to buses. Safety is another significant concern, as adjacent neighbourhoods may become vulnerable to "shortcutting" as vehicles try to find alternative routes.

If the delays are too great to maintain effective bus service or there are safety concerns in adjacent neighbourhoods, we will need to shift our approach. This would involve allowing restaurants to set up smaller patios (tables of two) on the sidewalk. We will know more after the first week of the sewer-relocation work.

Unfortunately, City staff had to decline the temporary-patio application for the Wallflower, a Main Street restaurant that sits just north of Broadway. The complexity for the Wallflower is that it sits in a very busy intersection (i.e., where Broadway, Main St. and Kingsway meet), which makes it difficult to accommodate curbside patios. But additionally, the intersection will get even busier once the sewer-relocation work starts on Monday.

As of Monday, this section of Main Street will go down to one lane of traffic, which means we will have zero flexibility to accommodate a temporary curbside patio in this section. We are reaching out to the owner of the Wallflower to explain why we are not able to approve their patio application and to explore other options.

We are very pleased to have reached a solution with our Broadway Subway partners to trial a

traffic-management plan that would allow several Main Street restaurants to keep their curbside patios operational, at least for a time.

If you require any additional information regarding this matter, please contact Lon LaClaire (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 xʷməŋ̱əm (Musqueam), lúw̱ú 7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.