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**To:** ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)  
**CC:** ["City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"](#)  
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**Date:** 5/20/2021 10:20:08 AM  
**Subject:** Memo - Prior Street and New St. Paul's Hospital  
**Attachments:** Memo - Prior Street and New St. Paul's Hospital.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Construction is underway at the new St. Paul's Hospital. Temporary traffic impacts are expected over the duration of construction until completion in 2027.
- Strathcona residents have expressed concern about the use of Prior Street for trucks entering and exiting the hospital site.
- City staff are working with New St. Paul's Hospital representatives and their contractor, PCL, to minimize construction impacts on the neighbourhood.
- City staff will continue to monitor truck traffic and provide regular updates through quarterly meetings scheduled with representatives of the Strathcona Resident's Association.

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

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməŋəm (Musqueam), lúwímesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

## MEMORANDUM

May 19, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Maria Pontikis, Director, Civic Engagement and Communications  
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire  
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Prior Street and New St. Paul's Hospital

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The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on both the Prior Street Pilot Project and the proposed construction access for the new St. Paul's Hospital. This memo also addresses some of the area residents' concerns about the use of Prior Street.

### Introduction

The new St. Paul's Hospital has started construction and the project team is working with City staff to coordinate and mitigate construction-related traffic impacts. Residents have expressed concern about the use of Prior Street for trucks entering and exiting the hospital site.

### Prior Street Pilot Update

City staff have delivered a number of street and traffic calming improvements on Prior Street as part of the pilot project initiated in 2019, including:

- Reducing the speed limit adjacent Strathcona Park to 30km/hr;
- Introducing all day parking on both sides of Prior Street;
- Upgrading bus shelters;
- Installing barriers and traffic bulges;
- Upgrading street lights to LEDs; and
- Strategic road resurfacing with updated road paint and custom coloured crosswalks expected in June 2021.

Staff will report back to Council on the pilot project results in early 2022. Immediately after implementing some of the measures noted above, the City observed an initial 20% decrease in traffic volumes, a 10% decrease in speed and a 5-7% increase in parking. The learnings from the year long pilot project will inform the Prior/Venables Street Underpass project, which includes design and construction of Prior Street as a complete street.

### **New St. Paul's Hospital Update**

Construction is underway at the new St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. The new integrated health campus is expected to replace the original aging hospital and will be fully open and operational by 2027. The new site in the False Creek Flats will be a full-service, acute-care hospital with capacity for up to 548 beds -115 more than the current facility. City staff continue to facilitate coordination and construction of the site with PCL, the St. Paul's Hospital contractor. Once the hospital is completed and commissioned the primary access to the hospital will be from direct routes from the west of the site tying into the New High Street and the emergency ambulance access will be from Malkin Street/Road A intersection.

### **New St. Paul's Hospital Construction & Resident Concerns**

In order to build the new St. Paul's Hospital, temporary impacts are expected over the duration of construction. Prior Street remains an important street and a designated truck route, providing access to important regional destinations such as Produce Row and the future hospital. Any changes to the truck route would require stakeholder, City Council, and TransLink Board approval. City staff are working with PCL and the New St. Paul's Hospital representatives to minimize construction impacts on the neighbourhood, especially the impacts of truck traffic. Staff are working to direct St. Paul Hospital's construction related traffic to other streets, such as Terminal Ave. Construction plans have yet to be finalized for the first phase of the project, but we will continue to work to focus this traffic on routes other than Prior Street to the greatest extent possible.

### **Next Steps**

City staff will continue to monitor truck traffic and provide regular updates through quarterly meetings scheduled with representatives of the Strathcona Resident's Association.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.



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

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