

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
Date: 6/9/2020 10:51:33 AM
Subject: RE: Update on City Engagement activities

Hi:

We recognize that an online option isn't for everyone, so here are 4 ways for people to share their thoughts:

- If you are interested sharing your comments on a rezoning, rezoning planners will continue to be available by phone to share project information and answer questions. The number is on the site sign at the rezoning location or on the comment card, or you can call 311.
- Call 311 anytime and leave your comments
- Send in a comment in writing to city hall and it will be included in the public comments
- VPL has opened computer labs in the lower level of Central library downtown to provide access to those without computers or internet. The lab is open 9-430 Monday through Friday offering same day, 45 minute appointments. Distancing is maintained by having only 8 stations at once, and enhanced cleaning protocols are in place.

We are continuing to look at expanding opportunities for people to be engaged without using a computer.

Best

Sadhu

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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

From: Swanson, Jean
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 10:17 AM
To: Johnston, Sadhu; Direct to Mayor and Council - DL
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL
Subject: RE: Update on City Engagement activities

This all sounds good but I'm wondering if we can take measures to ensure that people who can't afford computers can participate?? Directing people to libraries with free access or???? Or maybe they can afford them but the technology seems daunting. Can we have options where people can just phone someone and talk to them???

From: Johnston, Sadhu

Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 9:40 AM

To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL

Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL

Subject: Update on City Engagement activities

Dear Mayor & Council,

I'm writing with an update on City engagement activities, including plans to begin slowly resuming "virtual" engagement (i.e. online, by phone, and via written comments). Based on public health recommendations, staff are not conducting any in-person engagement at this time.

Earlier this spring, we asked community members to share their thoughts on engagement during COVID-19, and received more than 3,000 responses from Talk Vancouver members and the general public. The majority of respondents said they are in favour of virtual engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic (84%) and most said they were likely to participate (between 67%-80%). A summary of the results can be found [here](#).

Building on what we heard, our intention is to slowly restart virtual engagement activities, and to use the opportunity to learn and adjust as needed. Part of this approach includes prioritizing a small number of engagement projects this summer, as well as giving our community members additional time to share their thoughts, including both online and offline options.

For June, public-facing engagement projects will include:

- Rezoning virtual open houses
- Vancouver Plan
- Jericho Lands
- Rental Incentive Program Review in low-density transition zones
- Cambie Corridor Municipal Town Centre Rezoning (tentative).

I'm also pleased to let you know that we've launched the City's new digital engagement platform, Shape Your City Vancouver, where residents can find digital engagement opportunities. All major public-facing projects will have their own Shape Your City Page, using a variety of online tools such as surveys, forums, ideation with virtual sticky notes, polls, and more.

I would encourage you to visit shapeyourcity.ca at the end of the month when our upcoming projects and engagement opportunities have been published.

In closing, these changes will provide new opportunities for our residents and businesses to learn more about and share their thoughts on City initiatives. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Best,
Sadhu

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