

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**Date:** 7/27/2022 4:55:54 PM  
**Subject:** Update: East Hastings Street (July 27, 2022)  
**Attachments:** Chiefs Order - Hastings Tents July 21st.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see below for an update sent today to local community agencies, partners, and stakeholders in the DTES with re: the Hastings St encampment. A few key points for Council:

- The Fire Chief issued the attached Fire Order on Monday (July 25) afternoon.
- Staff will be hand-delivering information flyers to people in tents tomorrow and will be posting posters along Hastings St and cross-blocks on Friday morning.
- Planning for the implementation of the Order is under way and we expect that work will commence next week.
  - Departments involved include: Engineering, ACCS, VFRS, VPD, Parks, and Comms. VCH and BC Housing are also participating in the response.
- Staff are also working to quickly implement several services in response to needs identified by the community: local storage, washrooms, and indoor drop-in space. The provision of these services is key to supporting at least some of the needs of unsheltered residents in this area:
  - A washroom trailer is supported through a UBCM grant that funds the Washroom Trailer Program.
  - VANDU contract is supported through the Council-approved funding to support work on community-led approaches to street cleaning.
  - We have reallocated funding within existing budgets to support start-up of some services (storage and drop-in; some additional washroom attendants) and will be seeking senior government funding for ongoing service.
  - We are also implementing other interim supports specific to the encampment such as additional street cleaning, Pigeon Park toilet activation, and offering safe escort for women to/from their housing.

We will keep Council apprised as the plans develop.

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
[paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca)



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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**From:** DTES Updates  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:08 PM  
**Subject:** City of Vancouver Update: East Hastings Street (July 27, 2022)

Dear all;

As you are all aware the City has been working with various community partners over the past few weeks to respond to garbage removal and safe passage ways in particular along the 00-300 block areas of East Hastings as part of a community based stewardship program that was intended to replace previous street cleaning practices.

However, based on recent fire inspections along East Hastings, the City was issued with a Fire Order on Monday afternoon. The order (attached) requires that the City remove tents and structures on East Hastings Street.

We understand your needs for immediate information on what the next steps are. The information below (see **Notice of Fire Order in the DTES – Tent Removal on Hastings Street**) provides you with an initial timeline between now and August 2<sup>nd</sup> and second phase that begins on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Note that the first phase, between today (July 27) and August 2<sup>nd</sup>, is focussed on providing people with information. The second phase, beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup>, will include the removal of structures and once we have details on this, we will share this with you.

On Thursday, City representatives will distribute written leaflets to each tent. The notice below will be made available to people on East Hastings on Friday through posters that will be set up in the area.

We commit to providing details on steps that will be taken within these timelines will be provided to you and people on East Hastings and adjacent streets as it comes available.

We are very appreciative of the efforts made by the Overdoes Prevention Society in partnership with VANDU and members of a working group established to find alternatives to previous street cleaning practices. These groups have worked with peers on the 00 block to dispose hundreds of bags of garbage and worked in partnership with the Vancouver Fire Department to train and deploy block stewards on fire watch and support the removal of propane tanks. However, community groups also made it clear that the program's success is dependent on a range of resources being made available to people who are unhoused, including storage, washrooms, and additional drop in spaces. Safe and secure housing was identified as a key cornerstone.

To recap previous information shared with you, the following actions have been taken by the City over the past two weeks:

- Funding support to VANDU to provide oversight and manage a stewardship program
- Funding support to the Overdose Prevention Society to support a preliminary pilot for the stewardship program on the 00 block
- Food delivery to people living on East Hastings supported by Living Balance
- Security at women serving housing and the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre provided by Mission Possible

We are also working to activate the washroom at Pigeon Park and implement an additional washroom with the support of UBCM funding program at 327 Main. Both will be peer managed and supervised.

Further, the City has identified start-up funds to initiate the following resources and is reaching out to senior government for ongoing support:

- 1 additional drop in space that will also have access to washrooms.
- Storage facilities in the neighbourhood.

We will update you at least weekly on progress.

City staff will continue to provide housing outreach support to find out what people's needs are. As well, we have identified funding to continue to support security at women serving housing through Mission Possible until safe passage is restored and to continue to support the OPS pilot for the near term.

Further, and in particular given the hot weather, a fountain and misting station have been installed at Pigeon Park and are in operation now.

Thank you for your support. If you need to reach anyone immediately or have questions, please contact [DTESupdates@vancouver.ca](mailto:DTESupdates@vancouver.ca)

Sincerely,  
City of Vancouver

### Notice of Fire Order in the DTES – Tent Removal on Hastings Street

The City has been working with community to clean streets, remove garbage, establish fire watch stewards and remove and store propane tanks and other flammable materials.

Due to fire risk to everyone, including people living in tents and buildings, the following must be removed:

- Tents, tarps, furniture and other structures
- Anything blocking building entrances, exits, and fire hook-up

#### **What Happens Now?**

July 27 to Aug 2

- Staff will share information about plans to implement the order
- People are encouraged to start complying with the Order requirements

Aug 3 Onwards

- City staff will be available to support removal of structures
- Further details are still to be determined and will be shared when confirmed

#### **What Does Enforcement Look Like?**

The City will work with community to remove structures, working one block at a time, and focusing on the highest fire /life safety risk areas first.

#### **Where Can I Store My Belongings?**

- The City will work with community partners to arrange storage for people in the immediate term.
- We will provide more information as part of street cleaning and community outreach.
- The City is also working with community partners to find storage solutions at other locations, including longer-term daily access storage in drop-in spaces.

#### **What Will the City Do?**

- We will continue to deliver washrooms (Pigeon Park, Washroom Trailers), storage and drop-in space, and food programs.
- Carnegie Outreach will continue outreach work to ensure we know people's needs.
- We will continue working with BC Housing on housing and shelter options.
- We will work with VCH and Indigenous partners on mental health and Indigenous healing and wellness programs.



Karen Fry, General Manager/Fire Chief  
900 Heatley Avenue, Vancouver BC, V6A 3S7

Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services  
Fire Prevention & Community Safety Division  
600-575 W 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver BC, V5Z 0C4

## ORDER (PURSUANT TO VANCOUVER FIRE BY-LAW NO. 12472)

Date:

TO:   
(Name, Mailing address and Postal Code)

The premises  by you to wit,   
(Type of Occupancy)

Located  Vancouver, B.C.

Inspected on the  day of  2022.

**THE INSPECTION REVEALED:**

1. Restricted means of egress from various buildings
2. Accumulation of combustible materials against buildings
3. Restricted access to fire department connections for various buildings
4. Unsafe storage and use of propane and other fuel sources
5. Open flames and fire hazards

Based upon the above, it is the opinion of the *Fire Chief* a condition exists at   
Vancouver, B.C., which endangers life and poses a risk of injury or loss by fire. (Street Address)

**THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me in accordance with Vancouver Fire By-Law 12472, Division C, Sentence 1.4.3.1.(1), you are HEREBY ORDERED TO:**

1. Remove any tents or other materials obstruct the means of egress from the buildings on the above noted blocks.
2. Remove any combustible materials stored adjacent to any building that create a fire hazard to the building or its occupant, Vancouver Fire By-Law Section 2.4.1(4) Combustible Materials.
3. Ensure unobstructed access by firefighters to all fire department connections for sprinkler or standpipe systems. British Columbia Building Code Section 2.5.1.4(1) Fire Department Access to Buildings.
4. Remove any tarps, tents and other structures that are placed on the sidewalk where they will prevent firefighters from engaging in firefighting operations.
5. Remove propane and all other fuel sources from tents, tarps and structures.
6. Remove all open flames and flammable heat sources, including candles, inside or under tents and tarp structures.
7. Comply with all other provisions of Vancouver Fire By-Law 12472.

This Order is to be complied with on or before:   
Month / Day / Time / am. / pm. Or Immediately

**An inspection to determine compliance with this order will be conducted on:**



Karen Fry, General Manager/Fire Chief  
900 Heatley Avenue, Vancouver BC, V6A 3S7

Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services  
Fire Prevention & Community Safety Division  
600-575 W 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver BC, V5Z 0C4

## ORDER

**(PURSUANT TO VANCOUVER FIRE BY-LAW NO. 12472)**

**This order does not relieve the owner or occupier of the obligation to comply with all City of Vancouver by-laws, including the requirement to obtain a permit or permits to undertake the work. For Permit Information Contact: Developments and Building Services Centre, Main Floor. 515 West 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. Phone: 604-873-7611**

City of Vancouver

*(Signature of Recipient)*

*(Print name and Tel. # of recipient)*

L AFC    2328

Karen Fry

*(Fire Chief)*

*Signature*