

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
Date: 8/24/2020 4:14:40 PM
Subject: Sanitation in Hastings Crossing BIA

Hello Mayor and Council-

Please see answers below to C. Bligh's email.

Here are some details from Sanitation on Hastings Crossing. Staff have reached out directly to Minna to discuss further.

Sanitation Services has increased street cleaning services in the DTES/Hastings Crossing area(s) since the outbreak of COVID 19 in March 2020. Working with the EOC, ACCS, Carnegie and others, we added a mid-afternoon cleaning of E. Hastings from Dunlevy to Abbott (12:30 to 2:00pm) that is in addition to the Urban Issues work that Streets does through the week and we do on weekends, and the regular street cleaning of both Hastings crossing and DTES/Chinatown /Gastown overnight by our Nightshift team. The additional servicing also looks after the Evelyne Saller center and the Carnegie Centre.

Our nightshift staff have concentrated efforts on laneways identified as hot spots within the Gastown, Hastings Crossing, Chinatown and DTES areas.

Sanitation staff regularly clean in and around large groups of people on E. Hastings, Cordova, etc and removes debris on a regular basis. (Please see attached pictures.) The mid-day Street Cleaning team does this without VPD support. Our staff have embraced the extra PPE requirements which allows them to work around large groups of people safely, enabling them to do their work. The only time we will not engage is if there is a potential for escalated violent behaviour.

The Urban Issues Crews from Street Ops works Monday to Friday with VPD to remove the structures/tents and concentrate on large debris (structures) and the smaller piles of other debris/litter is left behind to be picked up later by Sanitation Crews. Minna has most likely witnessed this during the day Monday to Friday. Our extra Sanitation Street Cleaning crew on E. Hastings will collect all debris from the ground around encampments and large gatherings. On the weekends the Sanitation Urban Issues crew, which operates on Saturday and Sundays, removes all debris from the encampment plus anything else left behind, more of a one stop shop approach –the main difference between Sanitation and Streets. I can see how this is confusing for folks not knowing the difference between City crews.

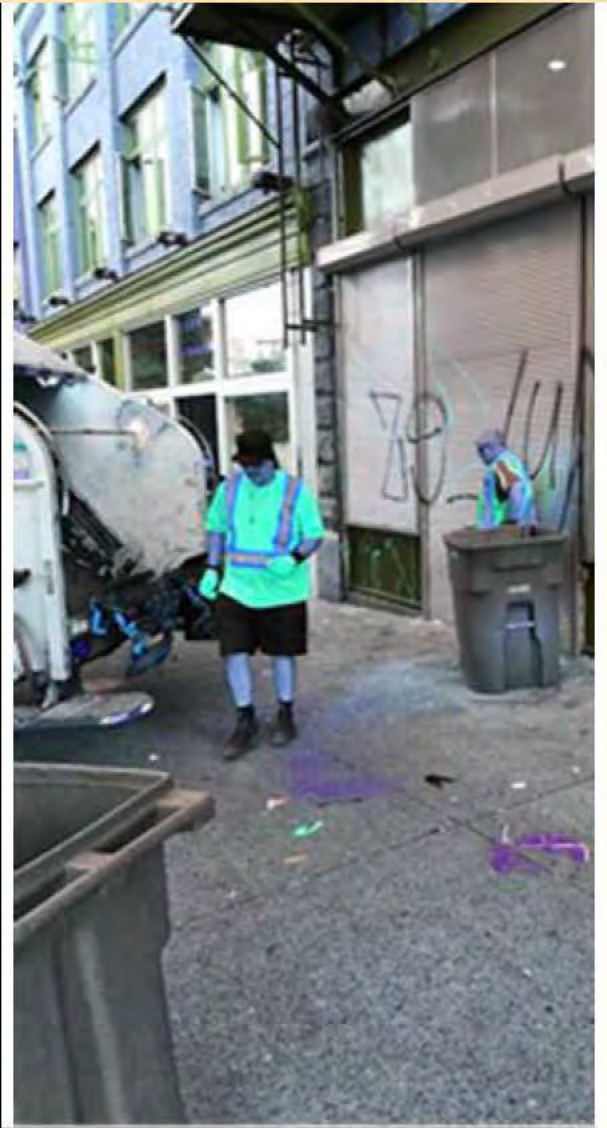
Regarding the removal of littercans, there were some removed at Richards and W. Hastings as part of the bike lane construction and Sanitation will check to ensure there is a replacement. The littercans at Carrall and E. Hastings are in place (Pigeon Park) and we can look to see if ones are missing closer to Cordova. The one concern is that the addition of littercans would be for public use and not a way for businesses to clean and use City littercans to remove debris. The problem with businesses using them is that it won't just for litter, it will be for waste from their businesses. The cans fill up and overflow quickly and we are not in a position to provide multiple servicing to support business waste. We'll work with the BIA on messaging around this.

Please see below photos of some of the work we do in the area.

Best,

Sadhu

--	--





Sadhu Afochs Johnston | City Manager
 City of Vancouver | 453 W 12th Avenue
 Vancouver | BC V5Y 1V4
 604.873.7627 | Sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca
 Twitter: sadhuajohnston



From: Bligh, Rebecca
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 6:13 PM
To: Johnston, Sadhu
Cc: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL
Subject: Sanitation in Hastings Crossing BIA

Hi Sadhu,

Yesterday evening I had a call with Minna from Hastings Crossing BIA, where amongst conversations surrounding cannabis licensing, we discussed a number of sanitation issues that have arisen in the Hastings Crossing BIA during the past number of weeks.

Minna has brought to my attention that following various Covid-19 prevention measures, in recent weeks there has been a large buildup of garbage along street corners and sidewalks that is impeding sanitation and public health in the

community. This large garbage buildup has often accumulated in surrounding areas where those struggling with homelessness are seeking shelter, and therefore is impeding their own health and safety. In Minna's experience, City sanitation workers have often been opposed to removing garbage buildup near large groups of sheltering people, which lead them to contact the Vancouver Police Department to relocate people, which they are hesitant to do, leaving the garbage build up unaddressed.

Minna has cited that many garbage bins in the area have been removed recently due to roadwork, such as at Richards and Hastings, Carrall and Hastings, and near Cordova Street. The Downtown Eastside Coordinated Community Response Network has also been struggling with the same issue, and has sought help from the City to increase sanitation in the community. Replacement/increase in permanent garbage bins within the areas above could be one way of allowing business owners to deal with their own garbage removal, and reduce build up at current locations.

I was hoping to hear back on whether the City was aware of the issue related to removal of bins that have not been replaced, and what steps can be taken to immediately address public health and sanitation in the area.

I would appreciate any information you could provide on this matter.

Thank you,
Rebecca

Councillor Rebecca Bligh

CITY OF VANCOUVER

453 W. 12 Ave., Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

E: CLRbligh@vancouver.ca P:604-873-7249

Twitter [@rebeccaleeblich](https://twitter.com/rebeccaleeblich)

Assistant

Sarah Basi

E: sarah.basi@vancouver.ca

T: 604-871-6712