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Subject: Loss of the bus stop at Denman and Nelson/Public Use of Patios Outside Restaurant Hours

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

Thanks for the inquiries about the loss of the bus stop at Denman and Nelson as well as on whether the public can use patios outside of restaurant hours. I've included a bit of information on each of these below:

Loss of Bus Stop at Denman and Nelson

In response to requests from the West End BIA, the City has trialed some temporary closures to sections of the parking lane on Denman St to enable businesses to apply for patios and support physical distancing. These temporary lane closures are identified to be removed along with the curbside patios at the end of the Temporary Expedited Patio Program on October 31 2020.

As part of these changes, two west side bus stops along Denman St – one at Nelson, one at Pendrell – were consolidated into a new bus stop location at Comox St. Although the new temporary bus stop location at Comox St does not have a bench, there is a long low wall that many people use to sit and rest. Staff are also exploring the feasibility of adding a new bench at this location. The narrow sidewalks along Denman are a challenge, but staff hope to find a place for a new bench. As a part of this effort, staff are working with TransLink to understand whether they have an interest in keeping the new bus stop location at Comox after October 31st as a part of TransLink's new Bus Stop Balancing initiative.

Public Use of Patios Outside of Restaurant Hours

When a city permits a patio we license the space to the business, which includes transferring the risk and liability associated with the use of the space. For that reason, individual businesses would need to decide whether to allow public use of patios when the restaurant is closed. In many cases restaurants have been removing or stacking / securing their seating in off hours and therefore it has not been readily accessible for public use in those periods.

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.