

From: "Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 10/29/2021 4:39:36 PM
Subject: Gastown Time Sensitive Safety Concern

Dear Mayor and Council,

This email provides an update on recent lighting outage in Gastown, in response to Councillor questions. The outage was caused by BC Hydro cable work. They originally expected to complete the work in a day (on Monday), however due to complexities they found while working, it was not completed until last night.

The City was notified to turn power back on around 8PM yesterday and power was restored around 9PM. We sent staff to check and confirmed the lights are functional.

We have alerted the BIA that if they still see a problem to let staff know immediately so it can be addressed.

Thank you,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager (she/her)
karen.levitt@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.

From: Kirby-Yung, Sarah <Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 3:30 PM
To: Levitt, Karen <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>; LaClaire, Lon <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
Subject: Gastown Time Sensitive Safety Concern

Hi Karen,

I was speaking with the ED for the Gastown BIS who shared that he is gravely concerned about the outage of lights at Maple Tree Square. This area is dark at the best of times, and now he is conveying that it is very very dark, rendering very poor visibility for people to traverse safely or to deter crime.

I understand he has reported the issue and been in contact with BC Hydro as well with as our Deputy in Engineering.

With the sixth night without lights coming up tonight, if there isn't resolution on what the issue is, he is concerned someone is going to get hurt.

I know once an issue has been reported, there are liability considerations and of course we all prioritize safety in our public realm.

So two questions. Will the lights be fixed by tonight? If not, can some temporary lighting be set up if the issue is ongoing?

Thank you very much,

Sarah Kirby-Yung, MBA she/her

Councillor | City of Vancouver

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