

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>
Date: 10/25/2016 2:35:53 PM
Subject: 58 W Hastings - update

Good afternoon Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing to let you know the status of our efforts to support individuals camping at 58 W Hastings to leave the encampment and relocate to shelter space. On Friday, October 19, we provided a notice to the individuals on site confirming the availability of shelter space, offering assistance with relocation and storage of personal property and requesting that they vacate the site by noon today. Our Outreach team has been on the property since Friday reinforcing those messages.

At noon today, City, VFRS and VPD staff attended the site and we are now asking asked people who are still there to begin packing up their belongings. Our understanding is that there are 14-15 individuals residing in the encampment. The communication has been well received by the campers and, at this point, everyone has indicated that they want to go. However, it will likely take a day or two for some of them to get the point of having their belongings organized and being ready to move.

To confirm, we are encouraging people to relocate to shelters but, at this time, are not taking any action to remove people, tents or other property from the site. If we are unable to obtain voluntary compliance over the coming days, we would need to pursue an injunction before compelling people to leave.

We have been advised that VANDU has called a media conference at 58 W Hastings for 2:30 this afternoon. The City will be issuing a release confirming the nature of the communication we have provided to the individuals in the encampment and identifying the awful conditions on the site as the basis for that action.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie | Deputy City Manager
City of Vancouver | 453 W 12th Avenue
Vancouver | BC V5Y 1V4
604.873.7666 | paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



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