

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>

**Date:** 3/6/2017 2:05:50 PM

**Subject:** Memo - Commercial Drive Complete Street Update

**Attachments:** Memo to Mayor and Council - Commercial Drive Complete Street Update.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manger - Engineering Services. providing an update on Commercial Drive Complete Street Process.

A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- The City undertook the first round of consultation on creating a more “complete street” on Commercial Drive in the fall, coming out of the Grandview-Woodland Community Plan process. Staff heard a lot of great ideas through the engagement, but also some strong concerns, particularly from some members of the business community, including a 5000+ person petition.
- We anticipated we may be able to go back out for public consultation to share designs as early as this spring, however after collecting feedback we understand that we need to spend more time working with many interests, and particularly the business community, to ensure that our eventual recommendations reflect the best possible outcome for this community.
- Currently, staff are working on a project timeline that will focus on continued technical analysis and conceptual design development in early 2017 and further discussions with the business community, including the Commercial Drive Business Society.
- Broader community outreach will continue, depending on the outcome of the work over the coming months. Staff wouldn't expect to seek a decision on this until at least 2019.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Paul Storer, Manager of Transportation Design, at [paul.storer@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.storer@vancouver.ca) or at 604.873.7693.

Best  
Sadhu

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ENGINEERING SERVICES  
 Jerry Dobrovlny, P.Eng.  
 City Engineer/General Manager

## MEMORANDUM

March 6, 2017

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager  
 Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager  
 Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk  
 Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager's Office  
 Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications  
 Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
 Katie Robb, Director, Communications, Mayor's Office  
 Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor's Office  
 Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation

FROM: Jerry Dobrovlny, General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Commercial Drive Complete Street Update

The Grandview-Woodland Community Plan identified the potential to redesign Commercial Drive as a more "complete street", with a goal of improving it for everyone (businesses, residents, and visitors) whether they are traveling on foot, by bike, on transit, or by driving. In fall 2016, following adoption of the plan, staff held several events to understand opportunities and issues on Commercial Drive. Staff also undertook separate outreach activities with Commercial Drive businesses in order to better understand their specific needs – including a first-ever corridor-specific loading/parking survey and workshop. We also conducted an intercept survey to ensure we understand how customers access businesses on the Drive (80% of customers walk, bike, or take transit when they go to the Drive to shop). Learnings from these various engagement activities will help inform our ongoing work on this project.

When we spoke with the public, most people agreed with the complete street design principles and the opportunity to improve mobility and the public realm. This included support for complete street principles, enhanced pedestrian crossings, and enhanced public realm. We heard a lot of great ideas through the engagement, as well as some concerns about the project in terms of how to achieve a complete street that carefully considers vehicle movement, loading and parking management, and transit reliability. We also received a petition with over 5000 signatures from the Commercial Drive Business Society, which clearly

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6/22/2017

demonstrates concern about the project and is a signal that we will need to work closely with the business community as the project advances.

We are at the beginning stages of work on design concepts and are undertaking additional analysis on safety improvements, transit improvements, opportunities for public realm, and the potential for coordination with major developments around Broadway, including the SkyTrain station. Once we've had an opportunity to investigate key technical issues in more detail, we'll start having conversations again with stakeholders, particularly focusing on those groups who seemed the most concerned about the project, including businesses on the Drive.

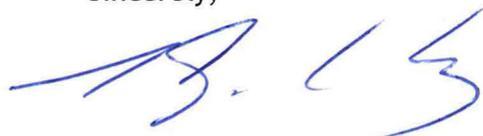
Early on, we thought we may be able to go back out for public consultation to share designs as early as this spring. After collecting feedback from the public last fall and delving into discussions with the business community, we feel strongly that before any proposed designs could be completed we need to spend more time working with the business community to ensure that our recommendations reflect the best possible outcome for this community.

The success of Commercial Drive as both a place and street is important for the Grandview-Woodland community and for the city as a whole. We recognize that any recommendations for change must consider a range of goals and issues including economic impact, health and safety, and public realm vitality. This is an incredible street and an important project to the businesses and community, which is why we've been engaging the business community about the issue since the development of the community plan and will continue to work closely with them as this work progresses.

Staff are working with a project timeline that will focus on continued technical analysis and conceptual design development in early 2017 and further discussions with the business community, including the Commercial Drive Business Society, later in 2017. Broader community outreach would continue beyond that, depending on the outcomes of the work over the upcoming several months. Our goal is to understand the project better as we head into our capital planning phase and to undertake the project early in the next capital plan. We don't expect to seek a decision on the project until at least 2019.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Paul Storer, Manager of Transportation Design at [paul.storer@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.storer@vancouver.ca) or at 604.873.7693.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Dobrovoly", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jerry W. Dobrovoly, P.Eng., MBA  
General Manager of Engineering Services

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