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Subject: Memo to Mayor & Council - Yaletown Parking and VFRS Access
Attachments: ENG - Memo to Mayor Council - Yaletown Parking and VFRS Access - December 21 2017.pdf

Greetings Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny and Fire Chief Darrell Reid in regards to Yaletown parking and VF&RS Access. A short summary of the memos is as follows:

- The existing parking configurations on Mainland Street and Hamilton Street in Yaletown are creating barriers to emergency access.
- The existing arrangement provides approximately 200 parking and loading spaces.
- Engineering and VFRS have developed a plan which will meet emergency access needs while minimizing parking impact, leaving approximately 110 spaces.
- Optimal use of the remaining parking and loading space will be the subject of discussions with businesses and other stakeholders in January 2018.

Should you have any questions, please contact Paul Storer, Manager of Transportation Design Branch, at 604.763.5619 or at paul.storer@vancouver.ca.

Best,

Sadhu

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MEMORANDUM

December 21, 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
Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor's Office
Lon LaClaire, Director of Transportation

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager of Engineering Services
Darrell Reid, Fire Chief, Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services

SUBJECT: Yaletown Parking and Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services Access

This memo provides an update on upcoming changes to the street configuration on Mainland and Hamilton Streets in Yaletown and engagement efforts with the local businesses.

Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VF&RS) has identified the current configuration of the two streets as a major impediment to their ability to respond to incidents in the area. The current on-street parking on the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Mainland Street and 1000 to 1200 blocks of Hamilton Street presents two significant problems for Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services (VF&RS):

- parked vehicles often obstruct these streets such that VF&RS vehicles cannot pass, and;
- existing space between parked vehicles, even when there is width for fire vehicles, is insufficient for VF&RS to stage their equipment as needed to fight fires from the street.

There are currently 174 on-street metered parking spaces and 10 loading/passenger/taxi zones (approx. 30 spaces) on these five blocks. In total, the existing configuration provides space for approximately 200 parked or stopped vehicles.

For the last several months, Engineering and VF&RS staff have been working through options to resolve this issue and have recently arrived at a configuration that meets VF&RS


operational requirements while maximizing on-street parking and loading spaces. Approximately 110 spaces would remain - the details of how those spaces are used (eg. parking/loading/parklets) will be a key topic of discussion with the local businesses.

The diagram below represents a typical block of Mainland or Hamilton.

- **Pedestrian Zones** (sidewalks and loading docks) are shown in blue. These will not change.
- **Fire Staging Zones** (6m wide) are shown in red. On Hamilton and Mainland these would extend across the frontages of all the mid-block buildings. These zones also exist on cross streets adjacent to the buildings at the block ends.
- **Flex Zones** are shown in purple. These are zones available for uses narrow enough to fit between the Fire Staging Zones and the loading dock walls, such as trash bins or planters.
- **Taxi Zones** are shown in yellow. These would encroach into the Fire Staging Zones, but because the taxis would most likely be occupied by a driver, this is acceptable to VF&RS. These are shown conceptually and could move around the block or be replaced with flex zones, depending on the block's needs.
- **Parking and Loading Zones** are shown in green. These zones occupy the full length of the east curbs adjacent to the sidewalks, except at fire hydrants, as well as the frontages of the buildings at the block ends. How this space is split between parking and loading will be a key discussion with local businesses.

Staff will meet with the Yaletown Business Improvement Association in January to discuss the planned changes to Yaletown, including a public information session to allow feedback from residents and businesses in February.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Paul Storer, Manager of the Transportation Design Branch, at 604.763.5619 or paul.storer@vancouver.ca.



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Yaletown Fire Access Diagram

