Greetings Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny regarding an upcoming public art installation on the 2200 block of Kingsway. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

• This memo is to notify you of an upcoming public art installation for the Kensington Gardens development at 2220 Kingsway.
• The art piece is titled “108 Steps” by artist Khan Lee.
• 108 Steps is a public sculpture in the form of a freestanding ladder that is 36.5 metres tall and 0.6 metres wide. The ladder will be located in the median of Kingsway.
• The public art installation is to meet the requirements of the Public Art Policy managed by Cultural Services.
• Installation is underway and the ladder will be assembled in the upcoming weeks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Margaret Wittgens, Director of Public Space & Street Use, at 604-673-8227 or margaret.wittgens@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
    Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
    Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
    Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
    Rena Kendall-Craden, Communications Director
    Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
    Naveen Girn, Community Relations Director, Mayor's Office
    Margaret Wittgens, Director, Public Space and Street Use, Engineering Services
    Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Public Art Installation, 108 Steps by Khan Lee, on the 2200 Block of Kingsway Between Gladstone Street and Baldwin Street

July 18, 2018

This memo is to notify Mayor and City Council of an upcoming public art installation, 108 Steps by Khan Lee, in the newly constructed median on the 2200 block of Kingsway. The installation is part of the Kensington Gardens development located at 2220 Kingsway. 108 Steps is a public sculpture in the form of a freestanding ladder that is 36.5 metres tall and 0.6 metres wide. The installation is scheduled to be installed in late July to early August.

Project Background
108 Steps is a public art project commissioned by Westbank as part of their public art requirement for the Kensington Gardens development at 2220 Kingsway consistent with the Public Art Policy and Procedures for Rezoned Developments. 108 Steps was conceived in 2014 by Vancouver artist Khan Lee and was subsequently approved by the selection panel, Westbank and the City as the public artwork for the Kensington Gardens.

The mission of the Public Art Policy managed by Cultural Services is to produce high quality public art that enriches Vancouver's urban environment, creates landmarks and distinctive elements in the built environment and provides a unique identity for individual developments and for the city as a whole. Engineering Services undertakes review and coordination of public art projects located on the street to ensure public safety and all other street uses are looked after.
Project Description

108 Steps consists of a 36.5 metre tall galvanized steel ladder installed in the newly constructed median on the 2200 block of Kingsway between Gladstone Street and Baldwin Street (see Figure 1 and 2 below). The artist describes the ladder as representing humans’ desire to gain access to something beyond reach, and strive for higher states. The location in the median of the 2200 block of Kingsway was chosen to achieve maximum visual effect of its height from street level.

Engineering Services have completed a thorough review of the design and construction of the structure to ensure it meets all applicable engineering and code requirements for safety. The structure will be able to withstand harsh weather and be seismically sound. Plexiglas will be installed between the ladder rungs for the first 5 metres of the sculpture to deter potential climbers. The construction of the ladder has begun and is scheduled for completion by late July to early August.

Figure 1 – Photo Simulation of 108 Steps by Khan Lee
Figure 2 – Public Art Site Plan

For questions, please contact Margaret Wittgens, Director of Public Space and Street Use, at 604-673-8227 or margaret.wittgens@vancouver.ca.

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