

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Dobrovolny, Jerry" <jerry.dobrovolny@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/7/2019 6:08:17 AM
Subject: Memo - Blood Alley Square Public Engagement Summary and Next Steps
Attachments: Memo - Blood Alley Square Public Engagement Summary and Next Steps.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- In direct response to feedback received during the May 15 open house, our tree management plan has been updated to retain an additional existing significant tree located at the northern edge of the square for a total of five retained trees of nine existing trees.
- The City will also be exploring locations near Blood Alley Square to plant additional street trees to ensure there is no net loss of trees related to the project. This will ensure that the Square's tree canopy is restored and enhanced.
- Next steps include distribution of a consultation summary in early August, commencement of unhealthy tree removals in summer of 2019 in coordination with the adjacent development, design refinement based on feedback received at the May 15th open house and engagement with local stakeholders to develop community partnerships for stewardship of Blood Alley Square and coordination of a final design open house in conjunction with the Gastown Complete Streets Project in early 2020.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jerry Dobrovolny at 604-873-7331 or jerry.dobrovolny@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MEMORANDUM

August 2, 2019

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Civic Engagement and Communications Director
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Margaret Wittgens, Director, Public Space and Street Use
Gil Kelley, General Manager, Planning, Development and Sustainability
Neil Hrushowy, Assistant Director, Planning, Development and Sustainability
Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture & Community Services

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Blood Alley Square Public Engagement Summary and Next Steps

Further to the May 14, 2019 memo on Blood Alley Square, this memo provides information to Mayor and Council on engagement feedback, resulting changes to the tree management plan and next steps.

Blood Alley square is an important public asset, and the redesign aims to create a space that is inclusive and respectful of its heritage assets, surrounding urban area, and social and community context guided by the nine social impact objectives in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) Plan.

An open house for the project was held on May 15, 2019, to seek feedback on the design for Blood Alley Square in Gastown which was informed by public and stakeholder feedback from previous open houses, questionnaires and meetings.

The May 15 open house was attended by a total of 231 people. 93 respondents provided feedback on the Blood Alley Square redesign by completing a questionnaire accessible between May 16 and June 16, 2019. The results of the hard copy and online questionnaire, and feedback from conversations at the open house indicate that there is overall support for the design presented; feedback emphasized a strong desire to retain as many existing trees in the square as possible.

The tree management plan for Blood Alley Square initially retained four of nine existing trees that were evaluated by a professional arborist and determined healthy enough to have the highest likelihood of survival. The trees that are scheduled to be removed are noted to be unhealthy and not likely to survive. In direct response to feedback received during public consultation, the tree management plan has been updated to retain an existing significant tree located at the northern edge of the square for a total of five retained trees. Additionally, we have developed a tree succession strategy that incorporates the planting of two large size specimen trees that will replace existing trees that are to be removed due to their poor health. This will ensure that the tree canopy is restored and enhanced. The City will also be exploring locations near Blood Alley Square to plant additional street trees to ensure there is no net loss of trees related to the project.

Next steps will include distribution of a consultation summary in August 2019, commencement of unhealthy tree removals in summer of 2019 in coordination with the adjacent development, design refinement based on feedback received at the May 15 open house, engagement with local stakeholders to develop community partnerships for stewardship of Blood Alley Square, and coordination of a final design open house in conjunction with the Gastown Complete Streets Project in early 2020.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J.W. Dobrovolny".

Jerry W. Dobrovolny, P.Eng., MBA
General Manager, Engineering Services

604.873.7331 | jerry.dobrovolny@vancouver.ca