

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: 9/12/2019 1:10:05 PM

Subject: Memo - 800 Robson Plaza - Start of Construction

Attachments: ENG - Memo to Mayor and Council - 800 Robson Plaza - Starting of Constru....pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny regarding the 800 Robson Plaza – Start of Construction. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- ☐ Construction is scheduled to begin in September to build the permanent plaza at 800 Robson Street on Monday September 16th.
- ☐ Access to the plaza will be closed for the duration of construction and pedestrians will be detoured to Georgia Street north of the Vancouver Art Gallery.
- ☐ Improvements will support year round use and programming, events, public art and vending including moveable and permanent seating, lighting, wayfinding, and access to site service.
- ☐ The addition of more power outlets will offer a more sustainable alternative to the use of generators.

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

September 12, 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

FROM: Jerry Dobrovoly
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: 800 Robson Plaza – Start of Construction

This memo is to inform Mayor and Council that construction is scheduled to begin in September to build the permanent plaza at 800 Robson Street. Construction will be delivered by the Ministry of Citizens' Services (the Province) by an external contractor with completion anticipated in spring 2020.

Access to the plaza will be closed for the duration of construction and a pedestrian detour will be in effect directing people to Georgia Street along the north side of the Vancouver Art Gallery.

The City is also engaging with the Block 51 Stewardship Advisory Committee to keep these key stakeholders well-informed of construction staging and impacts.

Staff will be providing further updates on the delivery and stewardship of 800 Robson Plaza as the project progresses.

Background

The 800 block of Robson Street, often referred to as Robson Square, is a city-serving public space with high social, cultural and political value, and a regional destination drawing residents and visitors to the heart of the city for democratic and creative expression, relaxation, and enjoyment.

Once completed, the new plaza will provide:

- A continuous level surface of concrete and pavers offering a consistent treatment throughout the Robson Square precinct, improved drainage conditions, and landscaping.

- Pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Robson and Hornby including works to further delineate the bike and vehicle lanes.
- Infrastructure to support year round use and programming, events, public art and vending including moveable and permanent seating, lighting, and wayfinding, and access to site services such as electrical and water. Currently, electrical access is limited, and the improvements will offer a more sustainable alternative to the use of generators.

Several elements at the 800 Robson Plaza will be consistent with the recently renovated ʔxwʔənəq Xwtl'e7énk Square, such as:

- Light poles and fixtures
- Paving pattern, moveable furnishings and wooden seating
- Trees located along the Hornby Street side with water retention systems
- Electrical power set-up for events

Communications Outreach

A communications plan to support public awareness of construction has been developed. Key tactics leading up to construction include:

- Media announcement
- Post-card with project information for key area stakeholders as a takeaway for the general public
- Project signage summarizing project, timeline, and what can be expected during construction
- Project/business cards for the contractor on-site with project contact information
- Weekly media traffic advisory
- Social media through the City's various channels

If you have any questions or would like more information on this project, please contact me directly.



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

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