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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
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Subject: [Hastings St - update](#)

Good morning Mayor and Council,

I am writing to provide an end-of-week with an update on the continuing efforts by staff related to the removal of structures on East Hastings Street, which remains focused on voluntary compliance from individuals sheltering outdoors.

Staff are continuing to work on E Hastings St and are moving from tent to tent conveying the messaging that structures need to be dismantled and other materials reduced. Vancouver Fire Rescue Services joined city crews again yesterday and progress in removing the most serious fire hazards was slower, but steady. Staff are also continuing to work with community partners to provide storage solutions.

There was one incident reported yesterday involving threats to an Engineering staff member and VFRS inspector. A report has been filed with VPD. As you can appreciate, this work is very stressful for everyone involved and psychological safety supports are in place for staff.

As per my previous update, the Province has now convened an executive steering committee to coordinate the provincial response and ensure alignment with our efforts. Deputy Ministers from Housing, Health, SPDR and Public Safety are participating in that group, along with representation from BC Housing and Vancouver Coastal Health.

BC Housing staff are undertaking a concerted effort to identify housing units and additional shelter capacity for individuals staying on Hastings Street and in parks, including exploration of purchasing additional properties. Outreach staff have identified individuals for placement into housing units that are available now and are collaborating with BC Housing and building operators to expedite those placements. That process will continue as additional units/shelter spaces become available.

A media briefing is planned for Wednesday, Aug. 24 to share information about the City's efforts, and a BC Housing spokesperson is confirmed to join.

Our crews will be continuing their work over the weekend and the EOC remains operational in support of this initiative. Please let me know if you have any questions at this point and we will continue to brief on our progress.

Thank you,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.