

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 9/29/2022 4:19:39 PM
Subject: [Update on Plaza and Parklet Upgrades in 2022/2023](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- ☐ The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the evolution of the 20 pop up plazas and 12 social service parklets that were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ☐ In collaboration with community partners, staff are advancing upgrades to for four plazas and seven social service parklets to be implemented in the fall of 2022 and early 2023.
- ☐ Upgrades are funded by current public space capital budgets, Downtown Eastside Capital Grants, and a grant provided by the Canada Community Revitalization Fund.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

September 29, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Update on Plaza and Parklet Upgrades in 2022/2023

RTS #: N/A

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the evolution of the 20 pop up plazas and 12 social service parklets installed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2022, staff are advancing design upgrades, in collaboration with community partners, for four plazas and seven social service parklets. These upgrades will be implemented in the fall of 2022 and early 2023, and is funded by existing public space capital budgets, Downtown Eastside Capital Grants, and a grant provided by the *Canada Community Revitalization Fund*.

The following is a summary of the public space improvements to expect in the next few months.

Social Service Parklet Upgrades

During the pandemic there was an acute need to support social service providers with outdoor spaces for meal delivery, programming and gathering. In collaboration with teams in Arts, Culture and Community Services and DTES planning, staff implemented twelve temporary parklets responding to community partner requests. These spaces proved highly successful. Overtime there is an opportunity to continue to invest and improve these spaces to become 'community hubs' with multiple amenities such as seating, weather protection, and charging stations.

In 2022-23, staff will upgrade six social service parklets with platforms, railings, planters and furniture, and implement one new parklet:

- Portland Hotel Society Outpatient Clinic parklet upgrade at 350 Columbia (Installed)
- Union Gospel Mission parklet upgrade at 601 E Hastings St (Installed)
- Kílala Lelum parklet upgrade at 220 Princess Ave (Install Fall 2022)
- Aboriginal Front Door Society new parklet at 384 Main St (Install Fall 2022)
- PHS Drinkers Lounge parklet upgrade at 111 Princess Ave (Install Winter 2022)
- Evelyn Saller Centre parklet upgrade at 320 Alexander St (Install Winter 2022)
- The Gathering Place parklet upgrade at 609 Helmcken St (Install Winter 2022)

Plaza Upgrades

Similar to social service parklets, most of the temporary pop up plazas have been very successful. Over the next few years, staff will advance upgrades to better meet partner and community needs.

In 2022-23, staff will be leading or supporting four plaza upgrades. To prioritize which plazas to upgrade in 2022, staff evaluated plazas based on the following criteria: City policy, equity zones, acute design need, and partner and community support. In the case of the Granville & 13th plaza, the South Granville BIA had a vision for a bold design and wanted to work with HCMA architects to realize their vision. Staff supported the design and public process, and costs for the upgrade were shared between the South Granville BIA and the City.

For all plazas identified for an upgrade in 2022, staff collaborated with plaza community partners to define the objectives for the plaza design and engaged nearby residents and businesses to advance the design concepts. Plaza upgrades generally include layout improvements, new furniture, murals, and other placemaking features.

Plaza upgrades underway include:

- Granville & 13th plaza in partnership with South Granville BIA (Install Fall 2022)
- Cambie & 18th plaza in partnership with Cambie Village BIA (Install Winter 2022)
- Kamloops & Hastings plaza in partnership with Ward Memorial Baptist Church, Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, East Village Business Improvement Association and Vancouver Food Forest Foundation (Install early 2023)
- Ontario & 5th plaza in partnership with Purebread Café (Install early 2023)

Placemaking and Other Small Improvements

In addition to the above, staff are supporting community partners through our placemaking program, including support for murals on barriers or furniture, art installations, little libraries, onsite storage, programming equipment, heat response equipment and other projects.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lon LaClaire', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services

604.873.7336 | lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca