

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)  
Date: 11/28/2022 2:41:25 PM  
Subject: [Slow Street November 2022 Update](#)

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[Dear Mayor and Council,](#)

Please see the attached Council memo from Lon LaClaire regarding the Slow Street November 2022 Update. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Starting mid-November, staff are installing new concrete barriers and 30 km/hr signs at 42 locations on the Slow Streets network to replace temporary orange barriers
- Barriers will not impact traffic circulation, but two to three parking spaces on each side of the street may be removed near the intersections
- Staff have sent notification letters to adjacent residents and businesses informing them of the upcoming changes

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

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
[paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca)

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Skwx̣ẉu817\_wú7mesh (Squamish), and səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

## MEMORANDUM

November 28, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk  
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC  
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Kareem Allam, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Trevor Ford, Director of Operations, Mayor's Office  
David Grewal, Senior Advisor, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire  
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Slow Streets Concrete Barrier Installation

RTS #: NA

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### Purpose

This memo provides an update to the August 2022 memo titled "Slow Streets Update" (please refer to Appendix B).

### Summary

This memo details the refresh of the Slow Streets network including:

- the timeline for implementation and public notification,
- the design of upgraded barriers, and
- the changes to the Slow Street network.

### Slow Streets Concrete Barrier Installation

Starting mid-November, City of Vancouver crews will be installing new concrete barriers and 30 km/hr speed limit signs at 42 location along the Slow Street network to replace the temporary orange barriers. This refresh will reduce maintenance costs and encourage drivers to slow down when entering local streets. The barriers will not impact traffic circulation, but two to three parking spaces on each side of the street may be removed near the intersections to ensure safe

manoeuvring for all vehicles, including emergency vehicles. Please refer to Appendix A for renderings and barrier location maps.

Slow Streets are routes for walking, biking, and rolling that also accommodate emergency services and local vehicle access. Launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Slow Streets made it easier for people to exercise and access businesses in their neighbourhood. The initiative has since helped reshape how we use local streets, providing a safe and comfortable street environment for different users.

**Communications:**

Staff have sent notification letters to adjacent residents and businesses informing them of the upcoming changes (please refer to Appendix C for the notification letter). We will continue to monitor the network and make additional adjustments if they are needed, including reviewing barrier locations. Residents can email [slowstreets@vancouver.ca](mailto:slowstreets@vancouver.ca) with questions or feedback.

Please contact me directly should you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lon LaClaire', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Thank you

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

604.873.7336 | [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)

## Appendix A – Slow Street Barrier Schematics and Locations

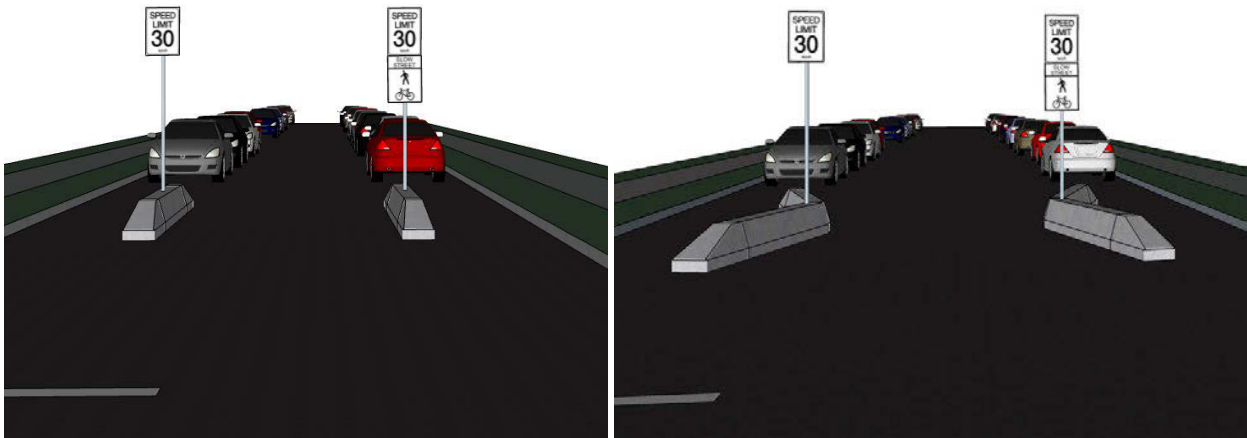


Figure 1. Renderings of concrete Slow Streets barriers on narrower (left) and wider (right) local streets

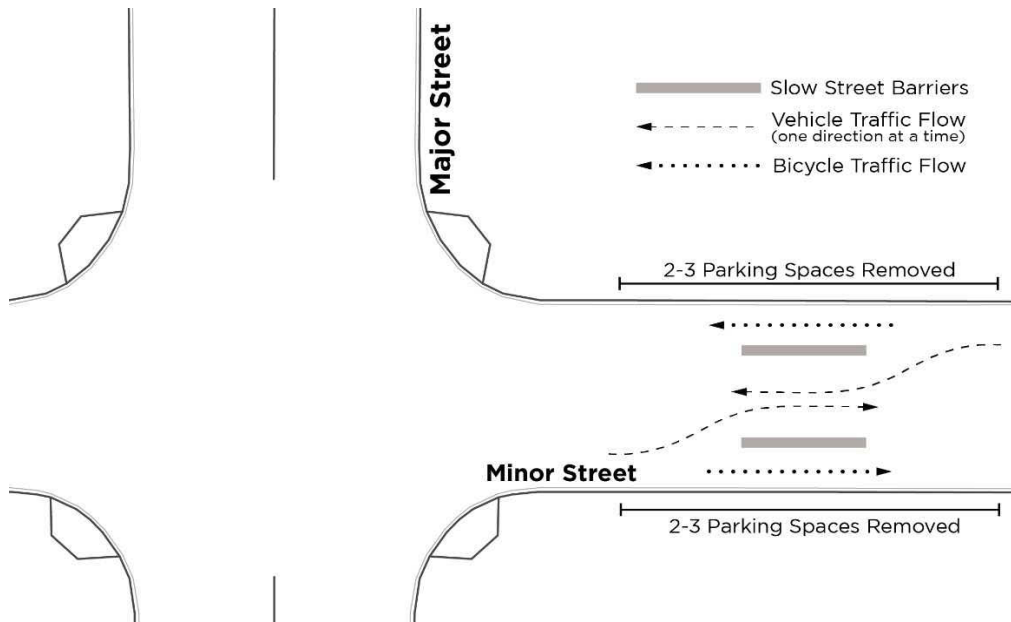


Figure 2. Slow Streets barrier schematic

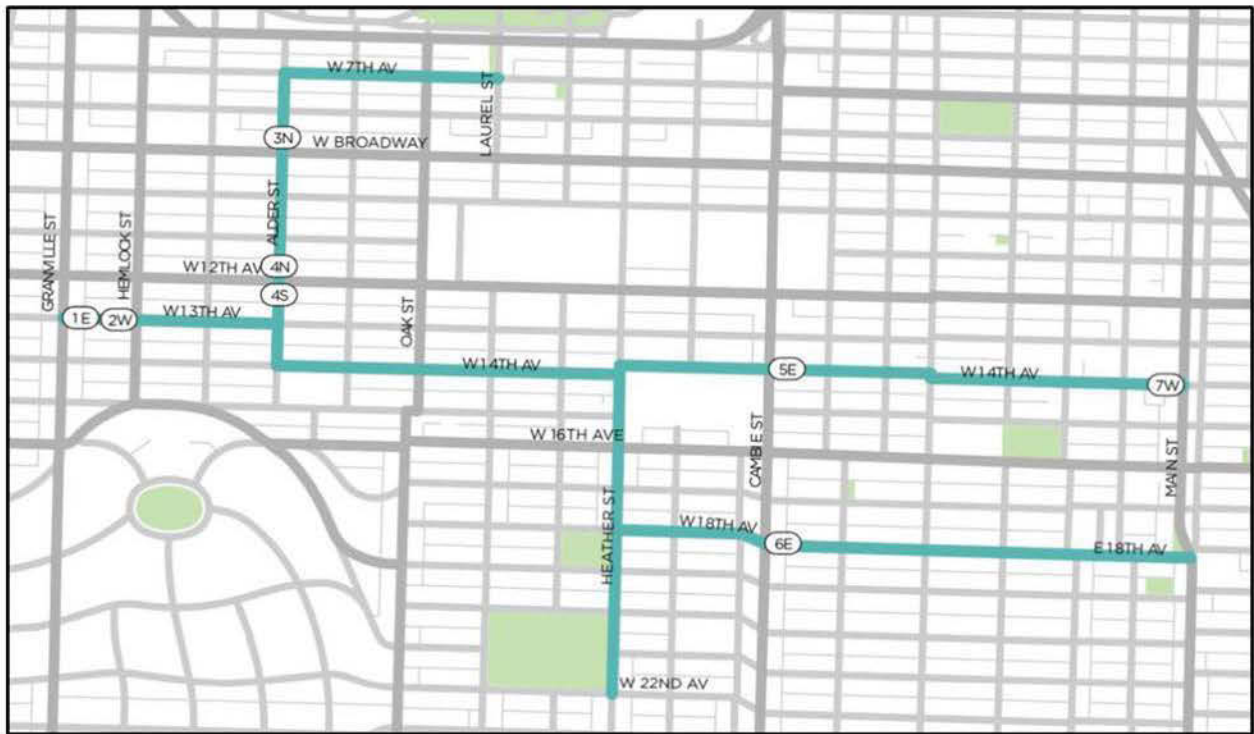


Figure 3. Slow Streets barrier West locations

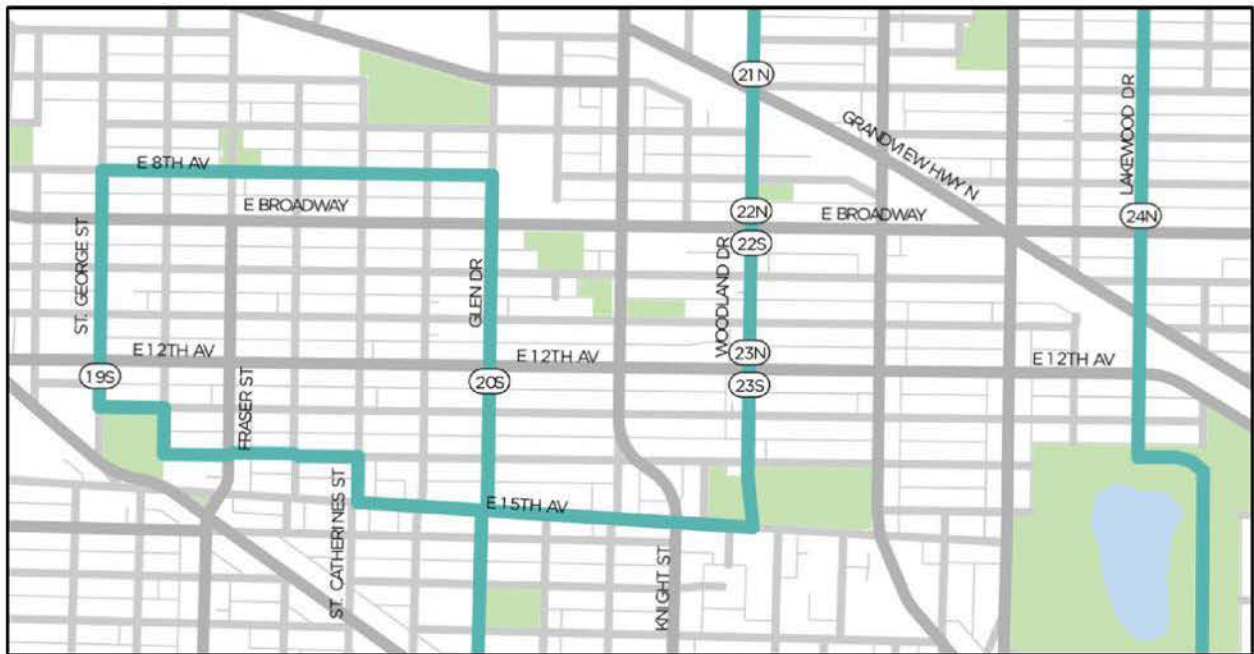


Figure 4. Slow Streets barrier Central locations

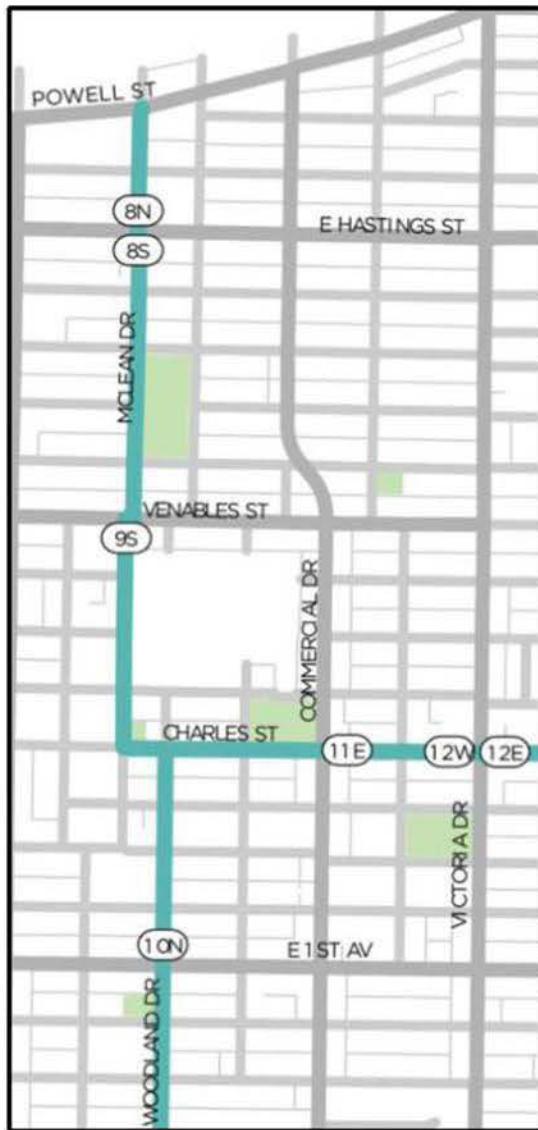


Figure 5. Slow Streets barrier Central North locations

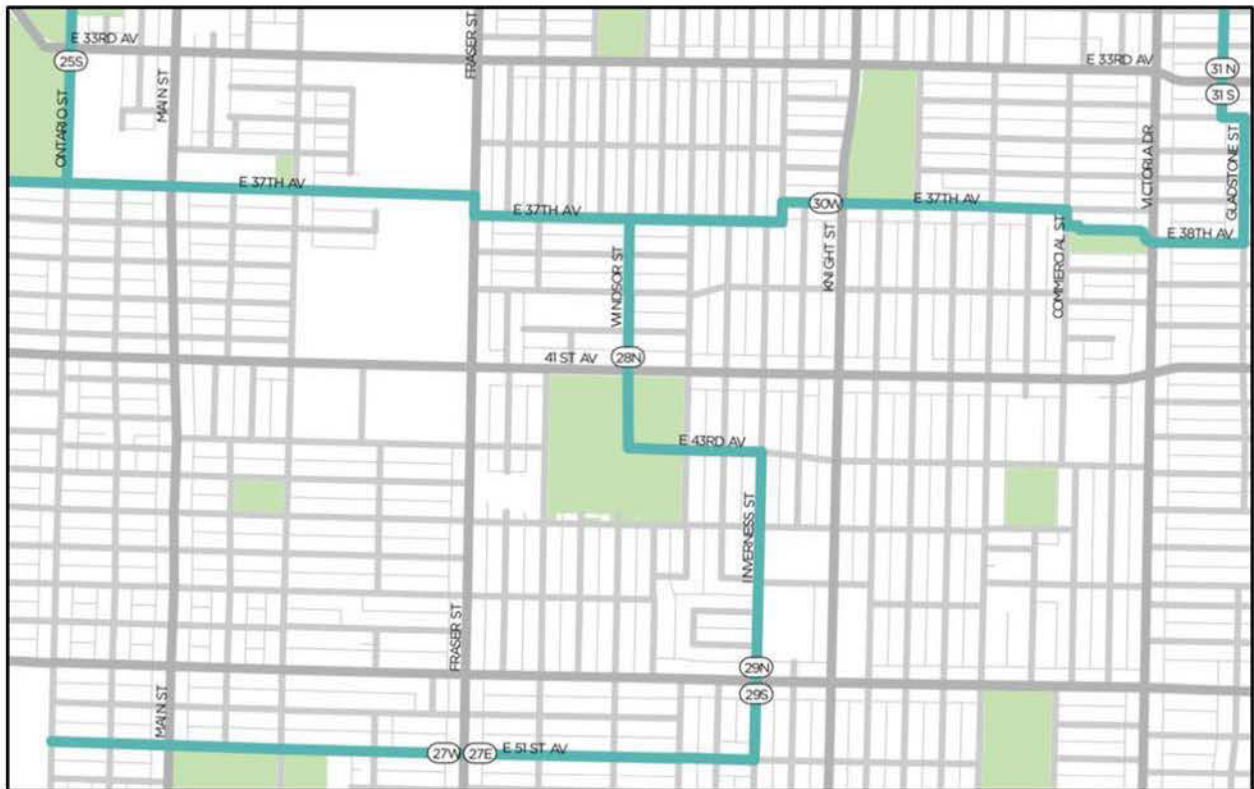


Figure 6. Slow Streets barrier South locations



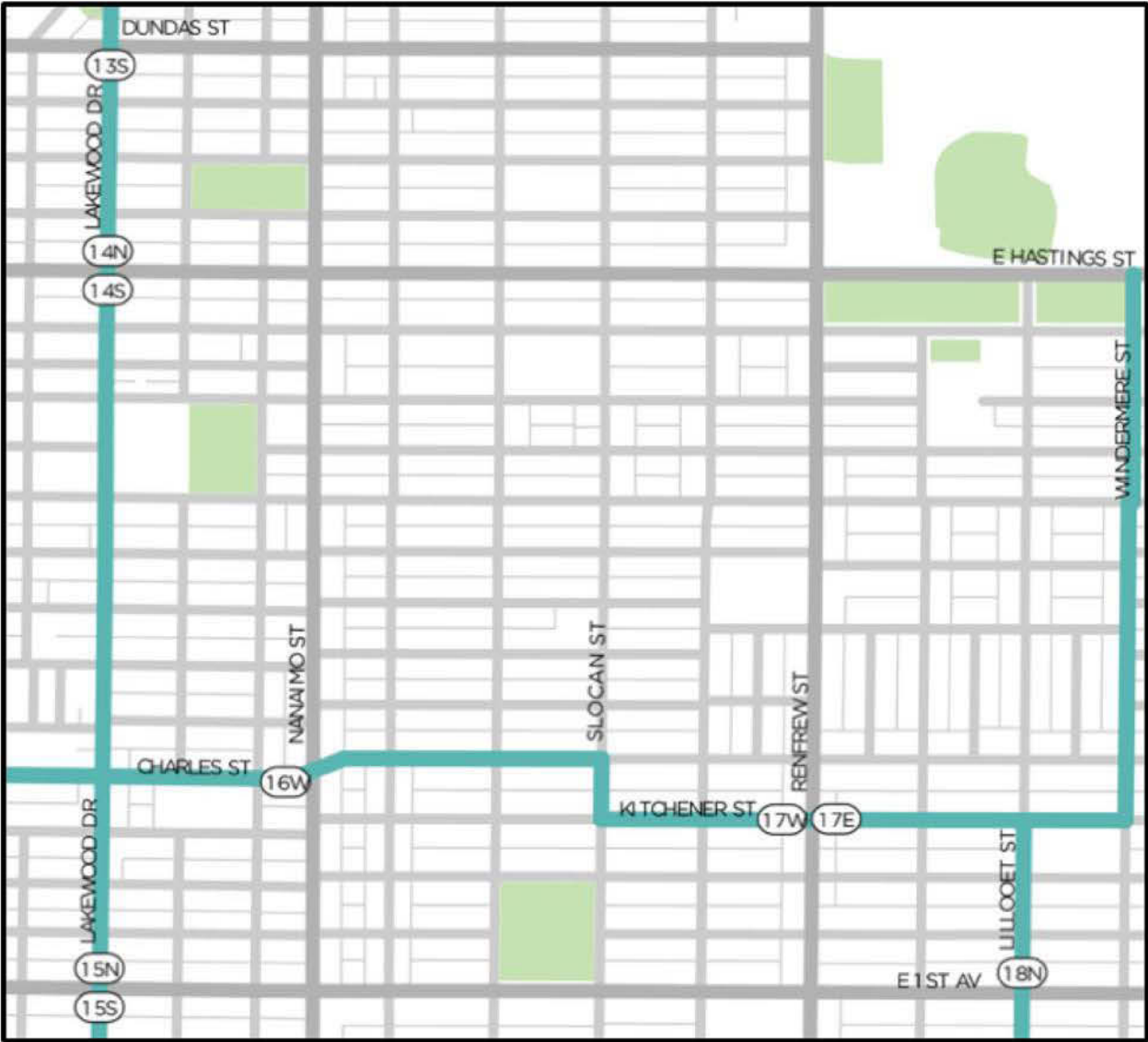


Figure 7. Slow Streets barrier Northeast locations



**Appendix B – Slow Streets Update, August 25, 2022**

## MEMORANDUM

August 25, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC  
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire  
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Slow Streets Update

RTS #: N/A

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### Purpose

This memo provides details on the refresh of the Slow Streets network including the design of the upgraded barriers, a revised timeline for implementation and changes to the Slow Streets network. It is an update to the October 2021 memo titled "Neighbourhood Traffic Management Program and Slow Streets Update."

### Slow Streets Upgrades

In order to address ongoing maintenance costs and challenges, as well as to improve aesthetics and compliance, the Slow Streets network is being refreshed with new, more permanent barriers at key locations.

Initially staff anticipated installing the upgrades this summer but material procurement and staffing have required that the implementation timeline be delayed to a late October 2022 start.

At major street intersections where site conditions permit, new concrete barriers will be installed to replace the plastic barriers. If these street segments aren't already 30 km/hr zones, new travel speed signage will also be installed. Prioritizing upgraded barriers at these locations will

encourage drivers traveling at higher speeds on major streets to slow down as they enter the Slow Streets network. Where the new design is not feasible, plastic barriers will be removed and signage installed. Reasons that new barriers may not be feasible include:

- Existing traffic calming (such as medians or diverters) at the intersection
- Parking, loading zone, school pick-up/drop-off or other curbside use constraints
- Driveways or Mobi stations near the intersection where barriers would be installed
- Intersections with full signals
- Street is too narrow

On minor streets, the plastic barriers will be removed, with signage added if needed for wayfinding.

The new barriers will narrow the street near the intersection, allowing only one direction of vehicle travel at a time. Drivers will be required to slow down and potentially wait for exiting vehicles before entering the Slow Street. The design allows people cycling to bypass the pinch point by using the space between the barriers and the curb. Appendix A shows a rendering of the barrier design on streets of different widths.

While some barriers will be removed as part of the Slow Streets Refresh, no Slow Streets are being removed from the network. Three minor changes are planned for the network to better coordinate alignments with existing and future bikeways and greenways. Maps of these changes are shown in Appendix B:

1. Between Gladstone St and Dumfries St in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the south, from E 36th Ave to the Midtown/Ridgeway Greenway, recognizing the completion of construction in Jones Park (Figure 1, Appendix B).
2. Between E 19th Ave and Stainsbury Ave/Vanness Ave in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the west, to the existing bikeway along Gladstone Ave (Figure 2, Appendix B).
3. Between E Pender St and Kitchener St in the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the east from Lillooet St to Windermere St. This will align the Slow Street with a future greenway in this area (Figure 3, Appendix B).

## **Communications and Engagement**

The Slow Streets webpage will be updated in late August 2022 with details on the new designs and timeline for the implementation of the new barriers. In the fall, staff will also notify residents and businesses in blocks where concrete barriers will be installed.

As part of this Slow Streets Refresh, staff have created 'Slow Streets Step Three - Review and Refresh', a summary of project engagement and what we have learned from the barriers and temporary traffic measures installed at six locations along the network over the last two years. This summary can be found in Appendix C and will also be published on the Slow Streets webpage.

Please contact me directly should you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lon LaClaire', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

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

604.873.7336 | [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)



## Appendix A - Slow Streets Barrier Refresh Designs for narrower and wider streets

Figure 1 – Slow Streets barriers on narrower streets.

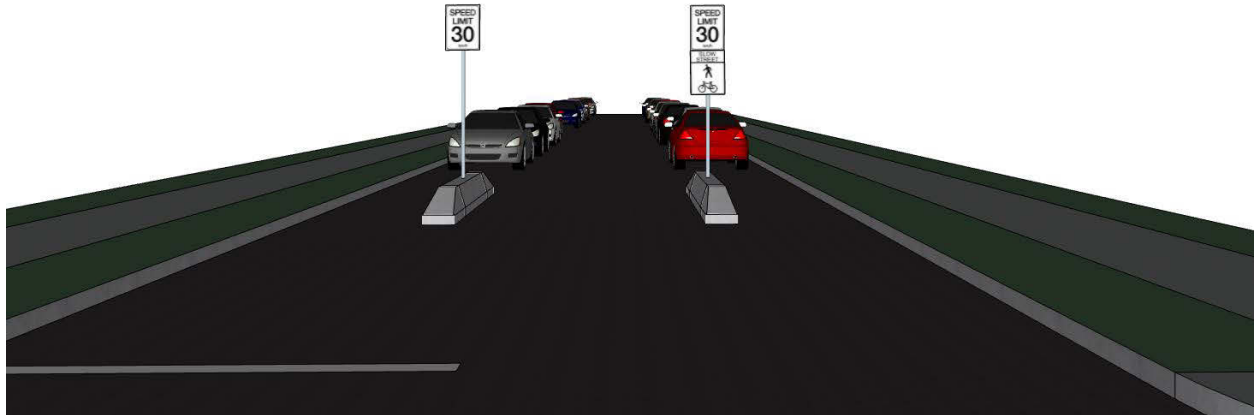
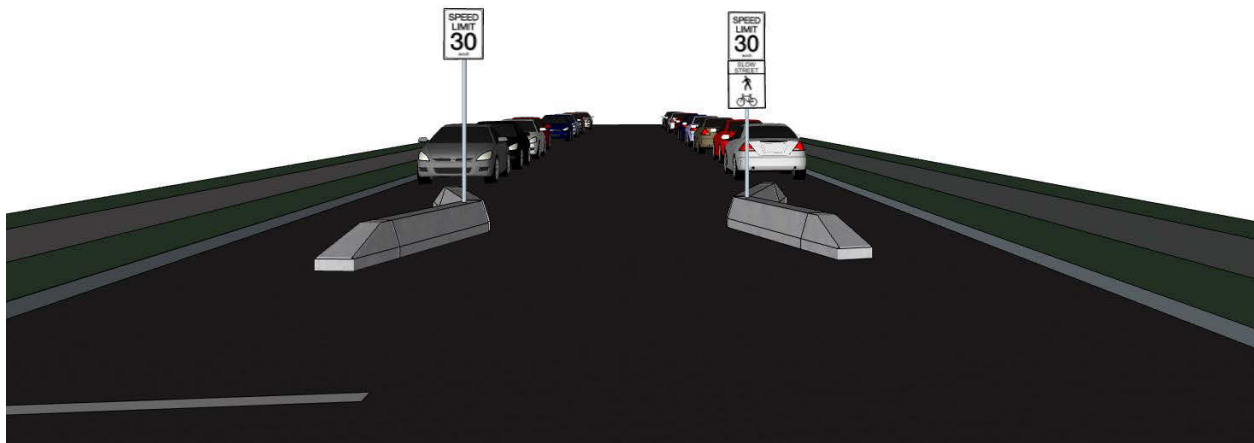


Figure 2 – Slow Streets barriers on wider streets.



The design will not restrict any turning movements, but will require removing four to six parking spaces near the barriers to ensure vehicles can maneuver around them safely. The designs have been approved by Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services.

## Appendix B – Minor Changes to the Slow Streets Network

Figure 1: Slow Streets Realignment – Gladstone St to Dumfries St

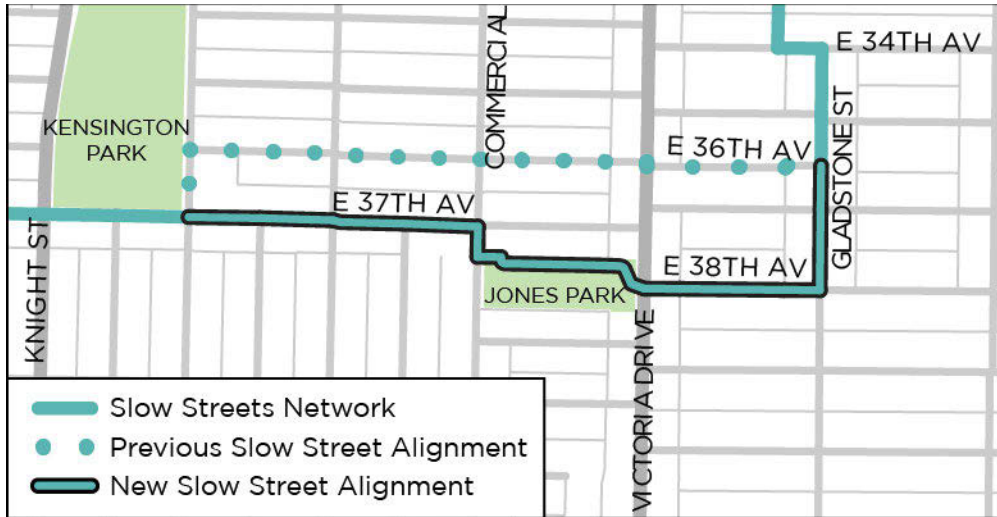
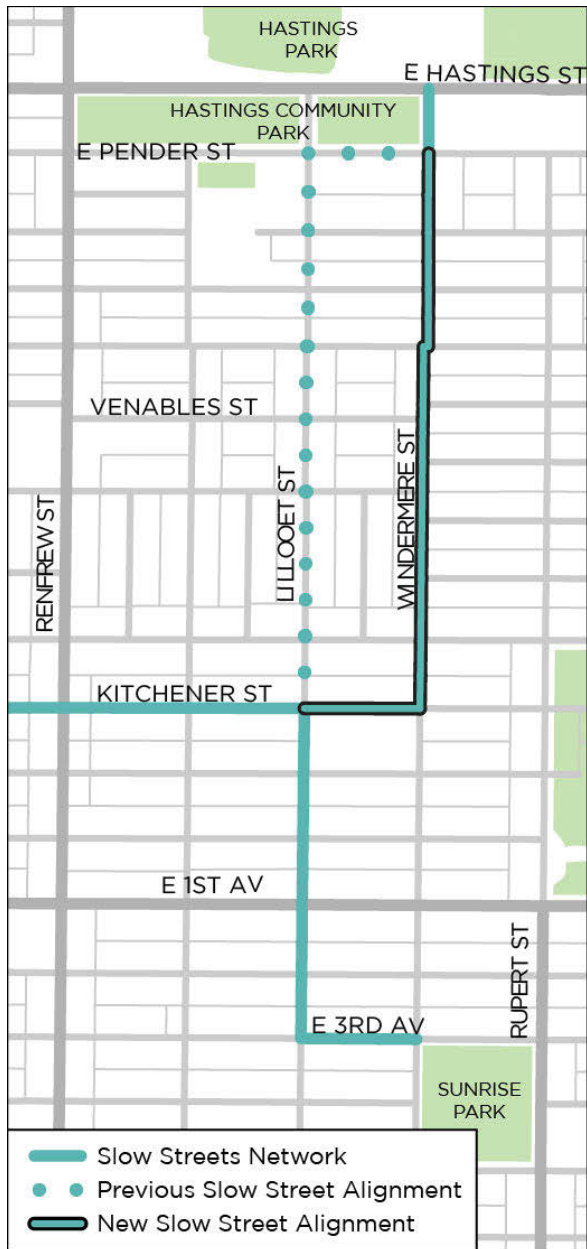


Figure 2: Slow Streets Realignment – E 19th Ave to Stainsbury Ave/Vanness Ave

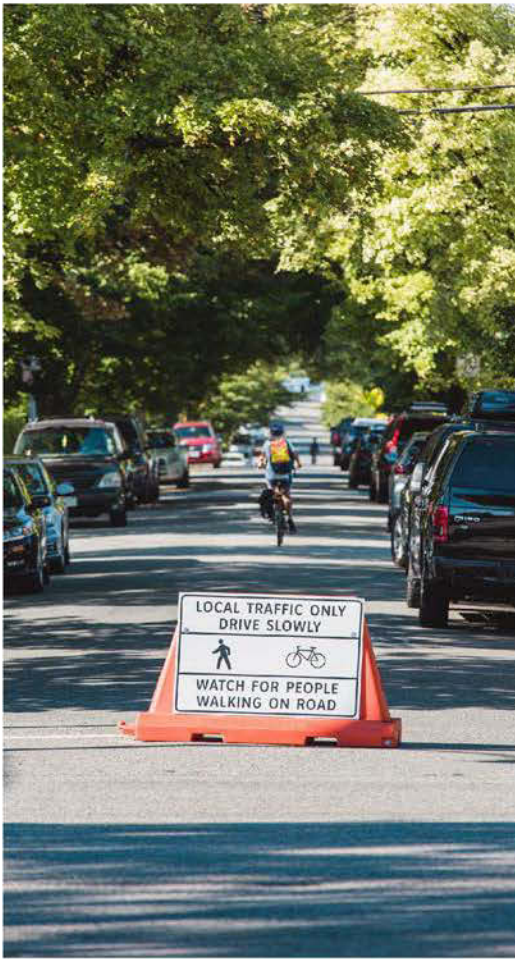




Figure 3: Slow Streets Realignment – E Pender St to Kitchener St



**Appendix C – Slow Streets Step Three - Review and Refresh**



# SLOW STREETS Vancouver

## STEP THREE | REVIEW AND REFRESH

JULY 2022

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Over 40km of Slow Streets have been implemented in the City of Vancouver since the initiative launched in May 2020.** First created in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Slow Streets were rolled out across Vancouver to make it easier for people to walk, bike and roll in their local neighbourhoods while physically distancing. Since, Slow Streets has helped reshape how we interact with local residential streets in Vancouver.

In 2020, the Slow Streets network was implemented in ‘waves’. Slow Streets could be identified by the new street signage and temporary barriers: the intention was to slow vehicles down, and improve access to neighbourhood amenities and the outdoors. A community survey in 2020 **received 1,942 responses, with over 70% liking or really liking the initiative.** Over the months that followed, staff reviewed successes and challenges with the Slow Streets network resulting in some additional traffic calming measures, and adjustments made based on community feedback.

By May 2022, the earliest Slow Streets had been in place for two years and requests for repairs and replacements were increasing as more barriers were misplaced or damaged. **Increasing maintenance and operational costs, combined with community feedback, warranted a review of the network.** For the Slow Streets network to continue to provide safer and comfortable routes for people walking, biking and rolling, its infrastructure had to remain fit-for-purpose.

Now, the Slow Streets ‘Refresh’ aims to retain the benefits of the Slow Streets network over the longer term, by improving its legibility and appearance with more permanent barriers.

No additional diversionary traffic calming measures are proposed and **three minor changes are planned for the network to better coordinate alignments with existing and future bikeways:**

- Between E 19<sup>th</sup> Ave and Stainsbury Ave/Vanness Ave in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the west, to the existing bikeway along Gladstone Ave.
- Between Gladstone St and Dumfries St in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the south, from E 36<sup>th</sup> Ave to the Midtown/Ridgeway Greenway, recognizing construction completion in Jones Park.
- Between E Pender St and Kitchener St in the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the east from Lillooet St to Windermere St. This will align the Slow Street with a future greenway in this area.

**The refresh will take place in stages starting late October 2022 using interim materials, with the new barriers gradually replacing the old ones.** Thereafter, City staff will continue to examine the network alongside other traffic calming programs and policy directions on how best to design our streets.

# INTRODUCTION

## What are Slow Streets?

The City of Vancouver launched various initiatives to re-shape how we use our streets and public spaces in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The Slow Streets initiative provided opportunities for walking, biking and rolling and made it easier for people to exercise and access businesses in their neighbourhoods.**

As the program developed, The City of Vancouver outlined a three-step implementation and engagement process.



**In Step One**, we implemented over 40km of Slow Streets using signage and barriers, obtaining feedback from the community on the initiative's success and impacts via a General Survey, email, 3-1-1 and VanConnect correspondence.



**In Step Two**, we installed traffic calming measures at six sites on the network and heard from the community on how these affected user experience via a more specific traffic calming survey.

In 2021, the Slow Streets network remained in place and five of the six traffic calming measures were retained.



**In Step Three**, City staff reviewed the Slow Streets initiative as public health guidelines shifted around the COVID-19 pandemic. This included a review of the original barriers and signs as well as the upgraded temporary traffic calming measures.

## How were Slow Streets implemented?

Slow Street locations were planned on local streets to help residents physically distance and mitigate the risk of COVID-19 to our communities.

### Step One

In April 2020, temporary barriers and signs were installed at various intersections in Kits Point to test implementation options, serving as a 'prototype' for the Slow Streets initiative.

Later in spring/summer 2020, 40km of Slow Streets were implemented in five 'waves' (See Appendix I). The routes were designated:

- Along existing greenways and local streets to reduce and slow down motor vehicle traffic.
- Based on several criteria including traffic volumes, existing traffic signals to cross busier streets, equity and access to greenspaces like parks.
- To provide segments that can be part of a healthy walk, connect with other segments for a longer run or bike ride, and link to other public life recovery projects like pop-up plazas and open spaces like parks.

Staff collected feedback through the 'Step One - General Survey' which received 1,942 responses. We were interested in hearing the community's thoughts on the Slow Streets initiative, their experience of the on-street changes, and what could be improved or changed. A detailed report of those findings can be read [here](#).

### Key Findings

- Over 70% of 1,942 survey participants 'liked' or 'really liked' the initiative and under 25% expressed a negative sentiment.
- Support was higher among people who walk or bike, or used Slow Streets for recreation, accessing essential services or businesses. It was lower among drivers and transit users.

### Conclusions

- There was interest in expanding the Slow Streets network, adding further interventions that prioritize walking, biking and rolling, using more durable barriers and making the initiative more permanent, and facilitating more public outreach and engagement on the initiative.
- Some concerns were that the barriers were too easy to move and so their effectiveness was limited, and others believed that the initiative was unnecessary, making driving more difficult and posing concerns for traffic flow and vehicle turning movements.

### Step Two

Based on feedback we were collecting in Step 1, we implemented temporary traffic calming measures in six locations on the Slow Streets network between fall 2020 and summer 2021. These changes were designed to make those locations safer and more comfortable for people walking, biking and rolling. The six locations were chosen for their alignment with approved community area plans, future greenway or bikeway upgrades or where staff had previously heard of traffic concerns.



As the temporary measures were installed, community members were invited to provide location-specific feedback through the 'Step 2 Traffic Calming Survey' which received 451 responses. A summary of those findings can be read in Appendix II.

### *Key Findings*

- The findings varied significantly across all six sites. For some measures, the change in user experience fostered positive feedback for people walking, biking and rolling. For others, the feedback was more divided by mode.
- Overall, around half of those walking (45%) and biking (48%) reported that their experience had improved, whereas far fewer people walking (15%) and biking (9%) thought that things had gotten worse.
- For those driving, only 8% reported that their driving experience had improved and 41% reported that their experience had gotten worse.

### *Conclusions*

- Where responses suggested that user experience had improved, participants supported some changes to the initiative, including: improving the aesthetic quality of the barriers using public art or planters; making the barriers more robust or harder to move; expanding the initiative to include additional traffic calming measures; and making the initiative permanent.
- Where responses suggested that user experience had gotten worse, participants felt the initiative had a negative impact on traffic on neighbouring streets, vehicle circulation and access was more difficult and the engagement process was poorly timed.

This feedback has informed how the network can evolve, including appearance, compliance and materiality. Where impacts on traffic volumes, circulation and access were tested, we did not find significant negative impacts (further details in Appendix II).

## **Step Three**

Through these ongoing engagements, the first two Steps helped us to foster detailed feedback from residents and businesses on the overall network and specific measures, and to test the influence that Slow Streets had on vehicle speeds and volumes.

City staff received various requests for improving the aesthetic and functionality of Slow Streets after their installation with temporary barriers. By May 2022, the first 'wave' of Slow Streets had been in place for two years and requests have been increasing as more barriers were removed or damaged, independently of the engagement process, increasing maintenance and operational costs.

In late 2021/early 2022, City staff reviewed community feedback together with maintenance considerations and the City's broader policies and plans to reshape our streets for people when assessing the future of Slow Streets. For the Slow Streets network to continue to provide safer and comfortable routes for people walking, biking and rolling, its infrastructure had to remain fit-for-purpose.

# SLOW STREETS REFRESH

To address ongoing maintenance costs and challenges and to improve aesthetics and compliance, the decision was made to refresh the Slow Streets network. This 'refresh' would look to retain the benefits that the Slow Streets network brought to communities by improving its legibility and appearance with more permanent barriers and more robust materials.

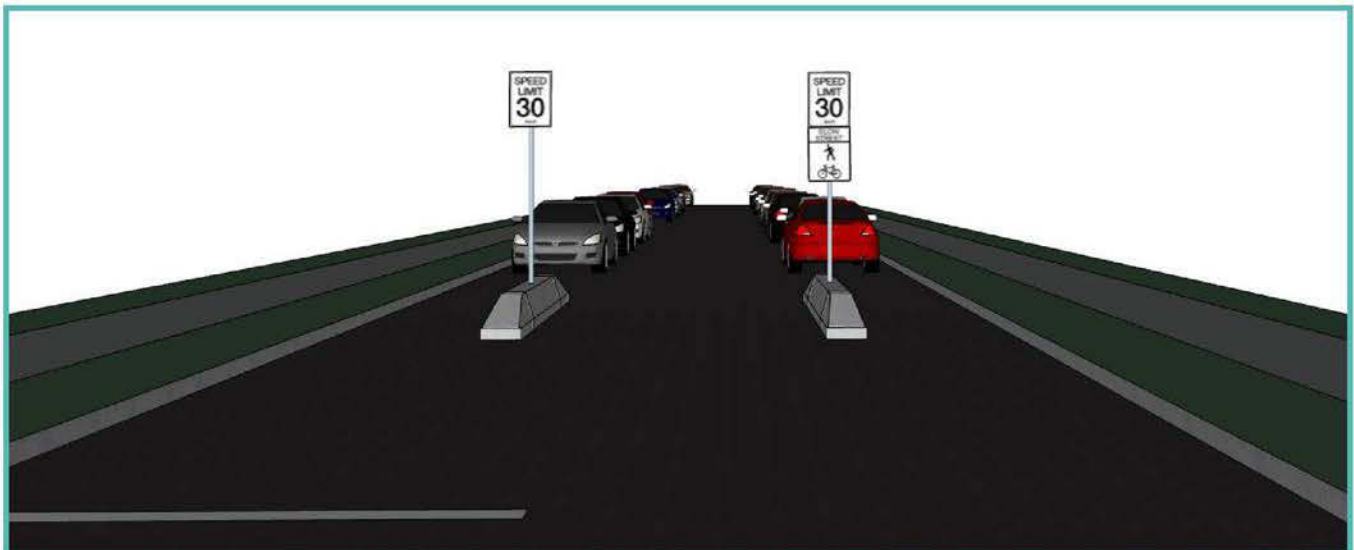
Minor changes to the existing network are proposed as part of the refresh to align with other forthcoming transportation projects such as bike upgrades and greenways.

Some traffic calming measures that were implemented as part of Step Two will be retained and others pending further review.

## Speed Reduction Measures

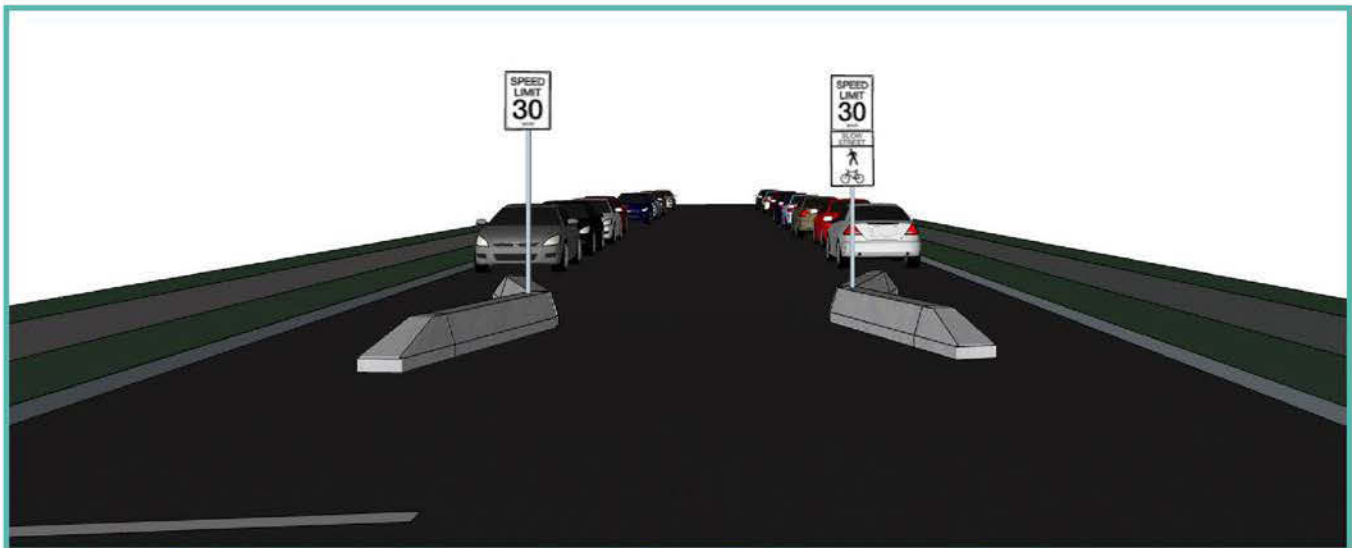
At major street intersections where site conditions permit, plastic barriers will be removed and new concrete barriers installed. Prioritizing the new barriers at these locations aims to encourage drivers travelling at higher speeds on arterial streets to slow down as they enter the Slow Streets network. At all other locations, plastic barriers will be removed and replaced with signage only.

The new barriers will create a pinch point at intersections, allowing only one direction of vehicle traffic at a time. Drivers will be required to slow down and potentially wait for exiting vehicles before entering the Slow Street. The design allows people cycling to bypass the pinch point by using the space between the barriers and the curb. No changes are proposed on existing sidewalks for people walking or rolling. Figure 1 shows a model of the barrier design for narrow streets and Figure 2 shows a model for wide streets.



*Figure 1. Slow Streets Barrier Refresh Designs for narrow streets.*





*Figure 2. Slow Streets Barrier Refresh Designs for wide streets.*

The design will require removing four to six parking spaces near the barriers to ensure vehicles can maneuver around them safely. The designs will not restrict any turning movements and have been approved by Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services.

The ‘prototype’ measures implemented at various intersections in Kits Point are to be removed as part of the refresh. These locations were not formally part of the Slow Streets network but were one of several changes in Kits Point in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the temporary bike lane on part of Arbutus St. Forthcoming changes near this location, including the recently approved Kitsilano Beach Park Seaside Greenway Improvements, may warrant a review of access and circulation conditions in Kits Point.

## Traffic Calming Measures

No additional diversionary traffic calming measures are proposed on the Slow Streets as part of the refresh. The implementation of longer-term traffic calming measures are to be deployed via the [Neighbourhood Traffic Management Program](#) and other existing programs.

Where temporary traffic calming measures had been installed in Step Two, the following next steps are proposed. Refer to Appendix II which details these locations.

**Location 1 Wall Street near Oxford and Cambridge Parks** – This measure was already removed in November 2020 following feedback from the community. Non-diversionary barriers were then installed at other locations along Wall St. These locations will be reviewed again as part of the Portside Greenway design and engagement process, set to take place in 2022/23.

**Location 2 Ontario St near Riley Park** – Generally, a net positive impact on user experience was recorded for this measure. It is to be retained, with an adjustment to the location of the closure along the block in Summer 2022. The relocation of the closure farther north on Ontario St was implemented as a result of conversations with nearby stakeholders to allow for different access to the adjacent sites. The new location will undergo monitoring and can be reviewed through future engagement.

**Location 3 Heather St at W 14<sup>th</sup> Ave** – This measure will be retained. On balance, this measure had a more positive impact on user experience than it did negative, and while this varied by mode of transportation (walking, cycling or driving), the localized negative impacts on driving were outweighed by the noted improvements for people walking, biking and rolling.

**Location 4 Charles St between Kamloops St and Slocan St** – This measure will be reviewed in 2023 as part of the [Neighbourhood Traffic Management Program](#) (NTMP), will remain in place until then. A review of survey responses, emails, 3-1-1 calls and VanConnect comments has highlighted to staff that concerns at this location are related to vehicle speeds and volumes on adjacent or neighbouring streets, which the NTMP will assess in more detail.

**Location 5 W 7<sup>th</sup> Ave at Fir St** – As with location 3, to be retained. On balance, this measure had a more positive impact on user experience than it did negative, and while this varied by mode of transportation (walking, cycling or driving), the localized negative impacts on driving were outweighed by the noted improvements for people walking, biking and rolling.

**Location 6 Glen Dr at E Broadway & E 12<sup>th</sup>** – This measure will be retained, to be reassessed alongside a more extensive review of routing options under the Broadway Plan, which is to go into effect on September 1, 2022.

## Changes to the Slow Streets Network

While some barriers on residential streets will be removed as part of the Slow Streets Refresh, no Slow Streets are being removed from the network. Three minor changes are planned for the network to better coordinate alignments with existing and future bikeways and greenway.

### Change 1

Between Gladstone St and Dumfries St in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the south, from E 36<sup>th</sup> Ave to the Midtown/Ridgeway Greenway, recognizing the completion of construction in Jones Park (see Figure 3).



Figure 3. Slow Streets Realignment - Gladstone St to Dumfries St.





Figure 4. Slow Streets Realignment - E 19<sup>th</sup> Ave to Stainsbury Ave/Vanness Ave.

### Change 2

Between E 19<sup>th</sup> Ave and Stainsbury Ave/Vanness Ave in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the west, to the existing bikeway along Gladstone St (see Figure 4).

### Change 3

Between E Pender St and Kitchener St in the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood, the Slow Street will move one block to the east from Lillooet St to Windermere St. This will align the Slow Street with a future greenway in this area (see Figure 5).



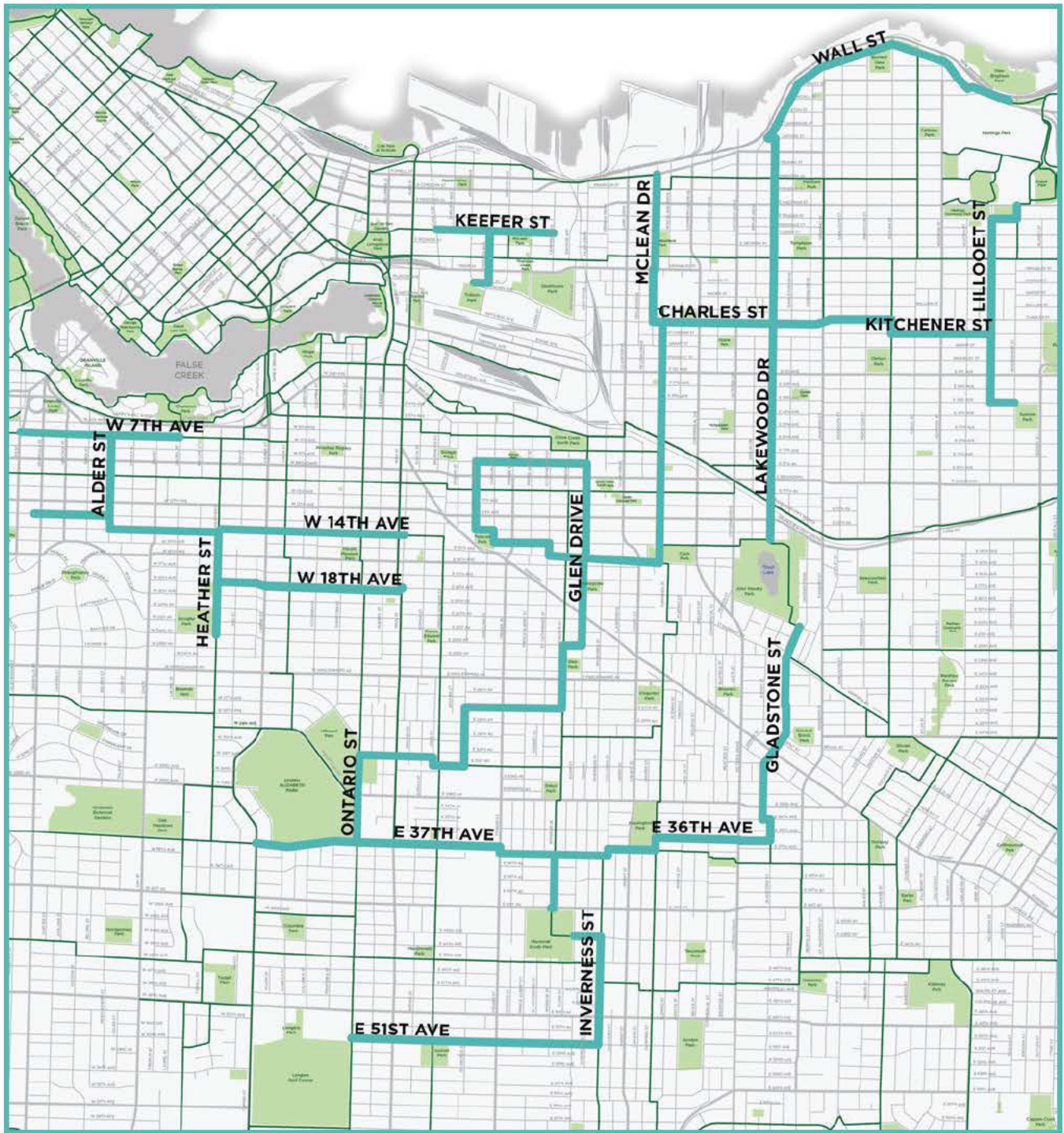
Figure 5. Slow Streets Realignment - E Pender St to Kitchener St.

## CONCLUSION

The 2022 Slow Streets refresh represents an important next step for the Slow Streets network as it moves from a temporary, COVID-19 pandemic response initiative to a more permanent fixture in Vancouver's street network.

Following implementation in May 2020, the initiative helped make streets safer and more comfortable for users. This report highlights community feedback, maintenance needs, and the impact that Slow Streets has had on the use of local streets in Vancouver. Based on staff assessments, the initiative's benefits for communities, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, can remain over the longer term. To do so, the 2022 Slow Streets refresh looks to retain the existing network with concrete barriers at different 'gateways' to Slow Streets. The refresh will take place in stages, starting in late October 2022, with the new barriers gradually replacing the old ones. The refresh will take place using interim materials, thereby allowing adjustments if needed. Staff will monitor the refreshed Slow Streets network to ensure a good user experience.

# APPENDIX I - EXISTING SLOW STREETS NETWORK





# APPENDIX II - STEP TWO ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

## Introduction

Slow Streets – Step 2 introduced temporary traffic calming measures at six sites on the existing Slow Streets network, designed to reduce local vehicle volumes and increase on-street safety for people walking, biking and rolling.

Six sites were selected:

- 1. Wall St near Oxford and Cambridge Parks:** A full closure to motor vehicles was installed but was later removed in November 2020 based on local resident feedback. [Notification letter regarding removal of temporary vehicle closure on Wall Street \(PDF\)](#).
- 2. Ontario St near Riley Park:** Full closure to motor vehicles near Riley Park to create a better-connected space between the different parks and amenities.
- 3. Heather St at W 14<sup>th</sup> Ave:** Full closure to motor vehicles traveling north-south along Heather St coupled with parking changes to allow for safe turning movements around the barrier.
- 4. Charles St between Kamloops St and Slocan St:** Partial closure of Charles St to eastbound motor vehicles to limit shortcutting in the neighbourhood.
- 5. W 7<sup>th</sup> Ave at Fir St:** Median diverter to reduce motor vehicle volumes and increase safety for people cycling at the intersection, especially due to obstructed visibility due to the Granville overpass (Fir St ramp).
- 6. Glen Dr at E Broadway & E 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** Partial closure to motor vehicles, restricting turns from Broadway and E 12<sup>th</sup> Ave to limit shortcutting in the neighbourhood.

For more details on the specific traffic calming upgrades, please [review the supplementary design guide \(PDF\)](#).

## Engagement Approach

The ‘Step 2 – Traffic Calming Updates survey’ was live on [Shape Your City](#) from October 2020 to June 2021 alongside feedback via email, 3-1-1 or VanConnect.

Notification letters, posters and signage, web content and social media were used to reach the community. Although we used a variety of techniques for notification, public health guidance dictated a reliance on ‘digital and remote’ engagement tools like emails, surveys and virtual meetings.

## Highlights

- 451 survey responses received.
- 73.8% of respondents owned, rented, or worked in the neighbourhood.
- Around half of those walking (45%) and biking (48%) reported that their experience had improved, whereas 15% (walking) and 9% (cycling) thought their experience was worse. For those driving, only 8% reported that their driving experience had improved and 41% reported that their experience declined.

## Part 1: Site Specific Findings

As our engagement approach was limited due to ongoing public health restrictions, we recognize that the summary below captures what we heard from residents who had an opportunity to provide feedback about the temporary measures. More details are shared below about next steps for each location. Staff anticipate additional opportunities for engagement when interim measures are upgraded to permanent materials or through adjacent planning efforts (bikeways, greenways, neighbourhood traffic management).

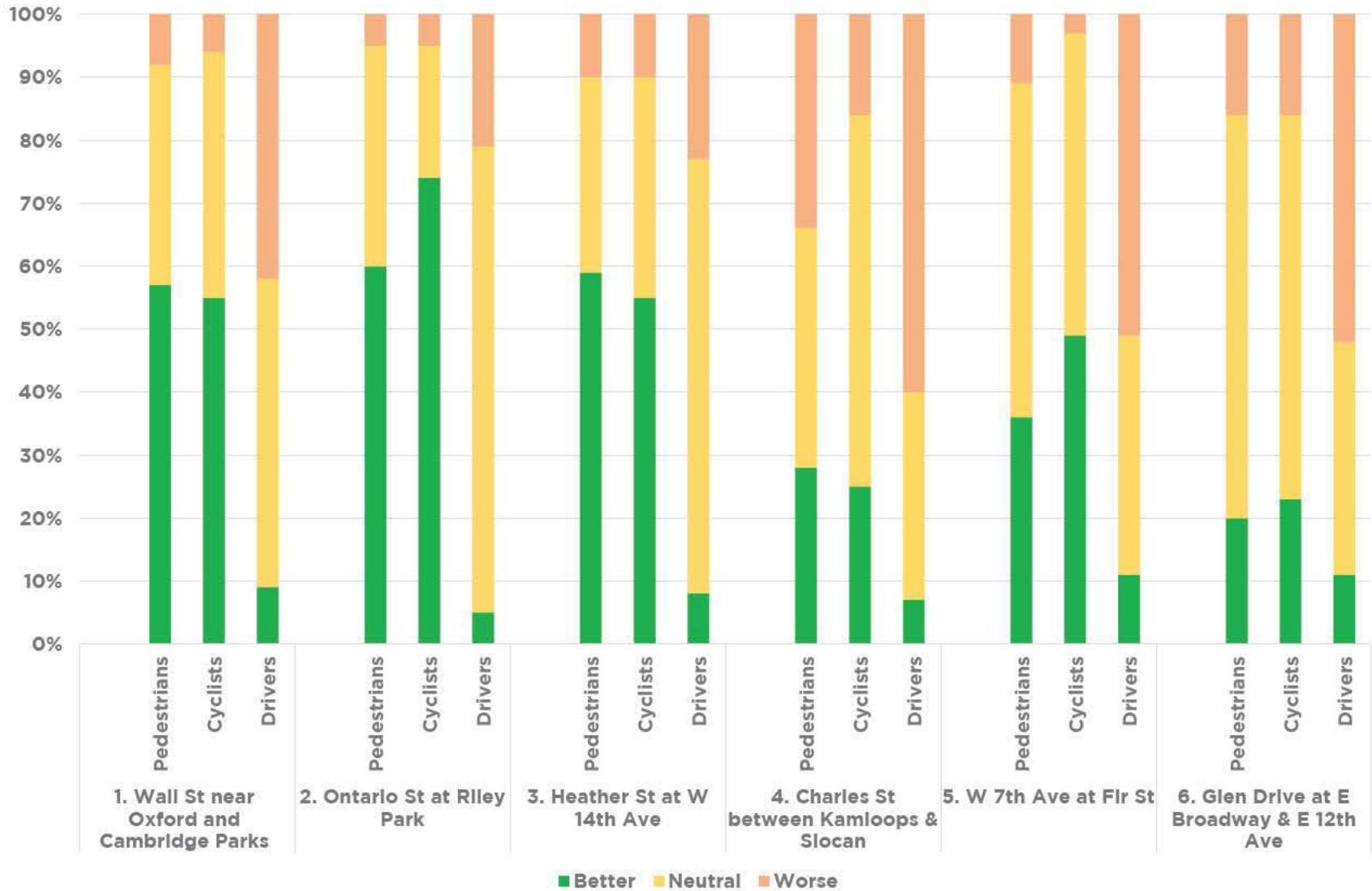
### Table of Site Specific Results

Site Name		1. Wall St near Oxford Park and Cambridge Park	2. Ontario St at W 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave	3. Heather St at W 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave	4. Charles St between Kamloops & Slocan	5. W 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave at Fir St	6. Glen Dr at E Broadway & E 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave
Site Description		Full closure of Wall St near Oxford and Cambridge Parks to reduce motor vehicle volumes and short-cutting through the neighbourhood.	Full closure of Ontario St at Riley Park to connect adjacent public spaces.	Full closure of Heather St at W 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave to reduce motor vehicle volumes in the neighbourhood.	Conversion of Charles St into a one-way road between Kamloops and Slocan to reduce short-cutting through the neighbourhood.	Full closure of W 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave at Fir St to motor vehicles to reduce motor vehicle volumes and increase cyclist safety.	Restricting left turns from E Broadway and E 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave onto Glen Dr to reduce short-cutting in the neighbourhood.
Survey Count		110	83	73	103	37	45
Email Count		139	39	34	57	17	27
% Survey Living at Site		75%	40%	67%	83%	56%	83%
Modal Split of Regular Users	Pedestrians	<b>46%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>45%</b>
	Cyclists	<b>31%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>24%</b>	15%	16%	11%
	Drivers	20%	11%	15%	<b>41%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>42%</b>

Site Name	1. Wall St near Oxford Park and Cambridge Park	2. Ontario St at W 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave	3. Heather St at W 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave	4. Charles St between Kamloops & Slocan	5. W 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave at Fir St	6. Glen Dr at E Broadway & E 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave
Summary of What we Heard	Vehicle circulation impacts*  <b><i>*In response to concerns with the Wall Street closure, this temporary closure was removed and motor vehicle access was reinstated in November 2020.</i></b>	Perceived increase in traffic.  Perception of higher vehicle speeds on E 30 <sup>th</sup> Ave and other streets.  Requests for more aesthetically pleasing barriers (e.g. with art or paint) or replacement with planters.	Perception of traffic diverting to surrounding streets.  Perception of increased traffic using laneways (e.g. between W 14 <sup>th</sup> and W 15 <sup>th</sup> Ave) leading to safety concerns.  Requests for speed humps, stop signs, and pedestrian-activated crossings.	Perceived increase in traffic (e.g. along Kitchener St and William St), especially during busier times.  Some reports of an increased sense of safety by people walking and cycling.	Concerns about access to homes & businesses.  Concerns about longer vehicle journey times.  Concern about Granville Bridge Ramp blocking peripheral vision of east-west cycling traffic.	Perceived increase in traffic on Windsor Street, a designated bike route south of 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave.  Reports of reduced traffic on Glen Dr and increased pedestrian and cyclist safety on this segment.
Responses to Feedback	This closure to motor vehicles was removed following feedback from the community in fall 2020.	Staff have been working with Park Board on limited adjustments to support event operations.  Precast concrete selected as the most efficient and adaptable materials. Planters add cost/maintenance without stewardship but can be explored in future.	The design was modified in response to feedback from the adjacent school prior to implementation.  More extensive traffic calming measures are beyond the scope of Slow Streets but can be explored as part of the city-wide Neighbourhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP).	Traffic counts in spring 2021 showed volumes were reduced from over 1500 to just over 500 vehicles/day east of Penticton St.  Volumes were lower on Kamloops St, Napier St, William St, Kitchener St, Grant St.	This measure was considered in the context of upcoming Granville Bridge Connector changes and compatibility in traffic circulation.  With more significant construction, more may be possible regarding bridge pier sight-lines; however, the removal of motor vehicle movements crossing the median is an initial improvement.	Traffic counts in spring 2021 showed volumes were reduced from over 1000 to below 500 vehicles/day south of E 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave.  Fewer than 1000 vehicles/day were recorded on Windsor St, St. Catherines St and Prince Albert St south of Broadway.
Next Steps	Precast concrete selected as the most efficient and adaptable materials. Planters add cost/maintenance without stewardship but can be explored in future.	The design was modified in response to feedback from the adjacent school prior to implementation.	To remain in place following post-implementation monitoring, community feedback and technical review.	To remain in place and be reviewed in 2023 as part of the Neighbourhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP).	Will remain in place following post-implementation monitoring, community feedback and technical review.	To remain in place and be reviewed in the context of Broadway Plan directions for cycling route connectivity in the area.

Figure 1 below shows the recorded change in user experience for each traffic calming location.

**Figure 1: Change in User Experience by Mode and Location**

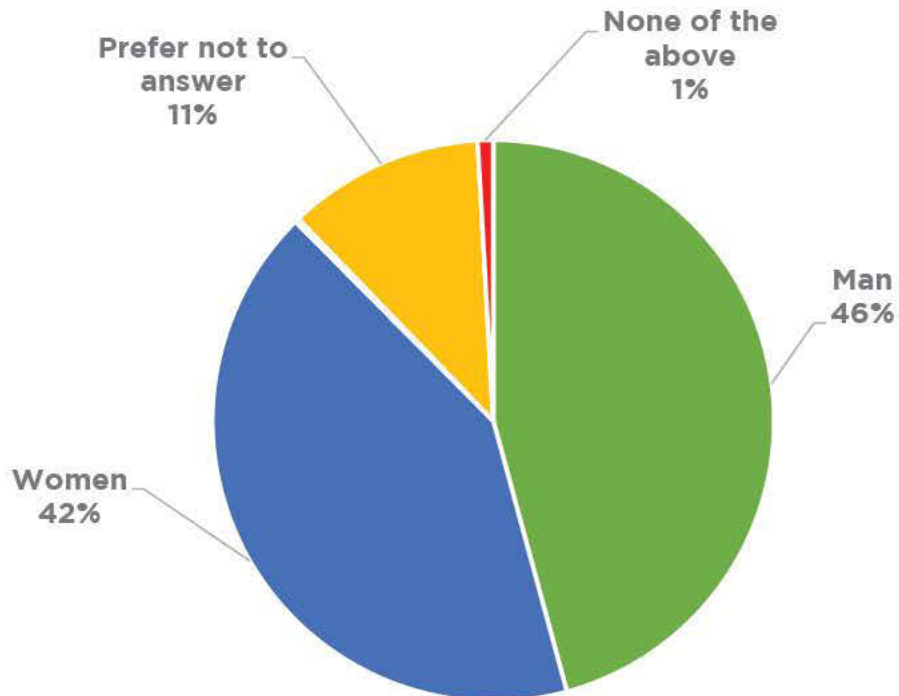


## Part 2: Who We Heard From

### Gender Identity & Age Group

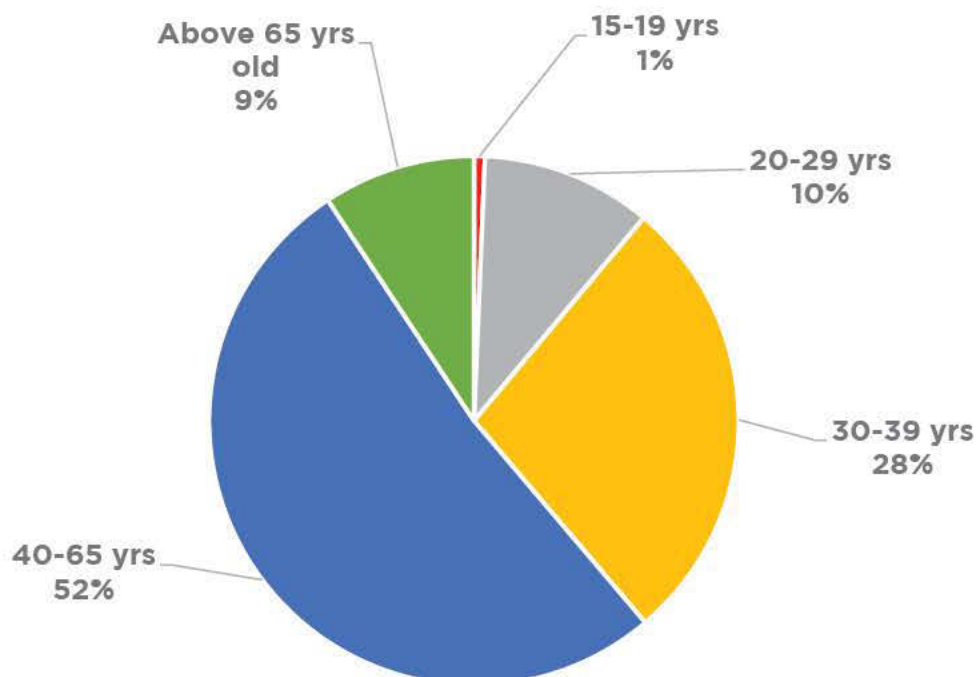
We heard from slightly more respondents who identified as men (45.6%) than as women (41.8%) (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2: Gender Identity of Survey Respondents**



Most respondents were aged 40-65 (51.9%) and 30-39 (27.7%) with just 20.4% of the total responses from seniors or youths/young adults (see Figure 3).

**Figure 3: Age of Survey Respondents**



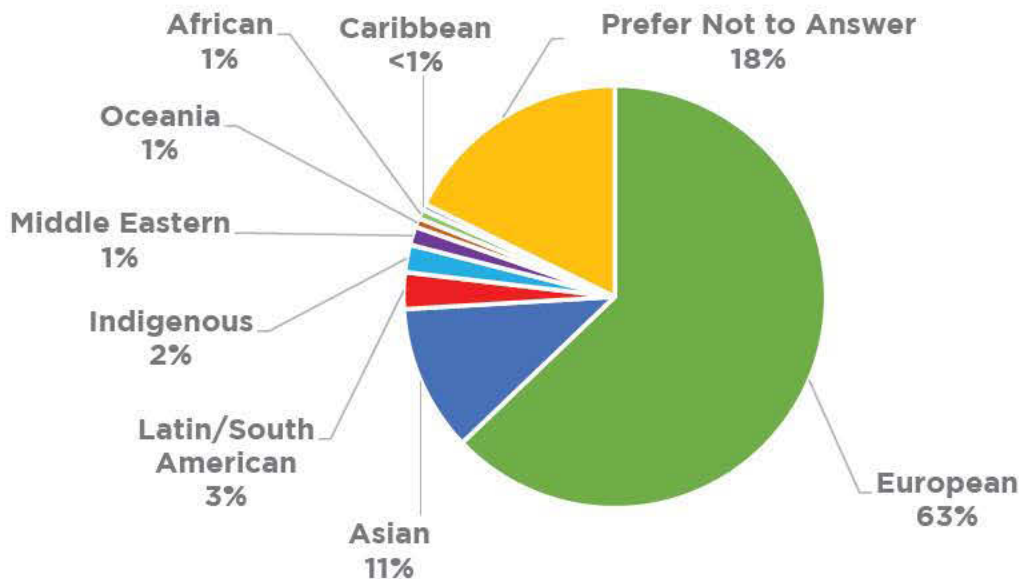


## Ethnicity & Household Income

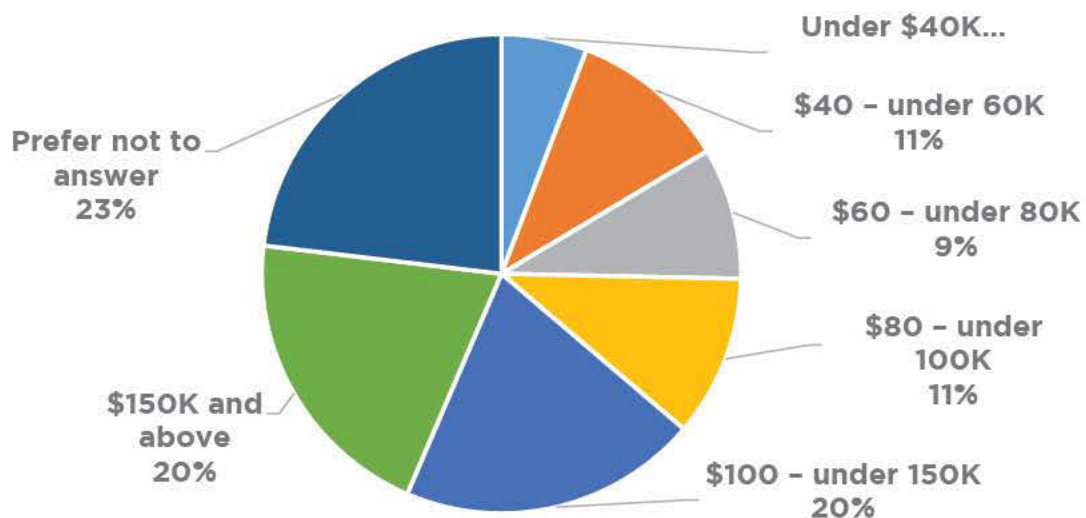
A high proportion (62%) of respondents were of European ethnic origin (see Figure 4). About 20% of respondents preferred not to answer and about 18% of respondents identified as a visible minority.

While 24.4% of respondents preferred not to indicate their household income; 39.6% of respondents reported an annual household income greater than \$100,000; well above the Vancouver median household income of \$65,000 reported in the 2016 Census (see Figure 5).

**Figure 4: Reported Ethnicity of Survey Respondents**



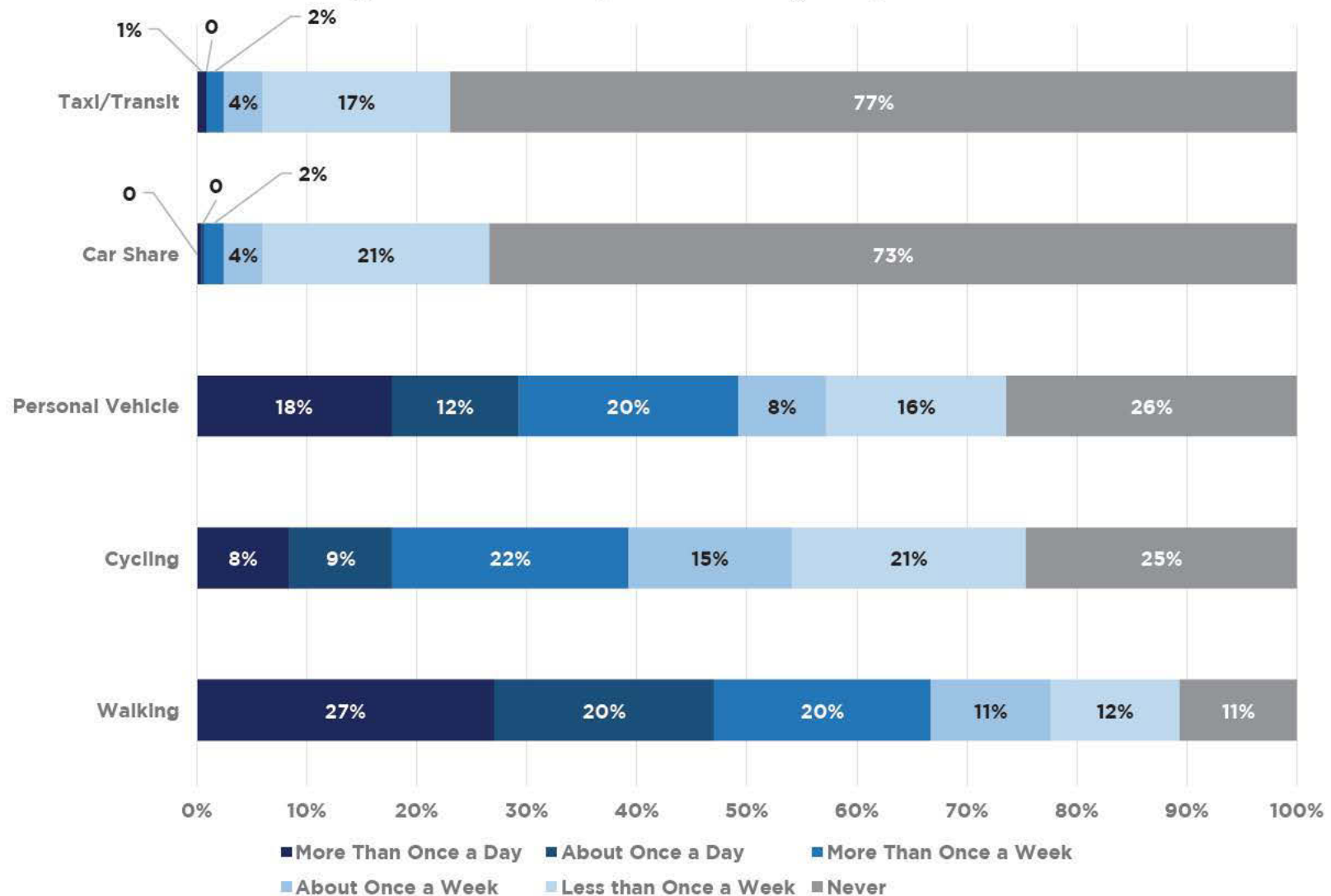
**Figure 5: Reported Household Income Bracket of Survey Respondents**



## Modal Split

Of the total respondents who used a Slow Street site more than once a day, 49.6% walked, 32.5% drove, and 15.4% cycled (see Figure 6). The two other modal options of taxi/transit and car share represented less than 2% of the daily users of the sites.

**Figure 6: Modal Split of Survey Respondents**





**Appendix C – Slow Streets Notification Letter**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please have this translated

**RENSEIGNEMENTS IMPORTANTS**

Prière de les faire traduire

重要資訊 請找人為你翻譯

重要资讯 请找人为你翻译

**MAHALAGANG KAALAMAN**

Mangyaring isalin ito

**ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ**

ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਕੋਲੋਂ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲਥਾ ਕਰਵਾਓ

**TIN TỨC QUAN TRỌNG**

Xin hãy dịch sang tiếng Việt

**INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE**

Busque a alguien que le traduzca

중요정보 번역해주세요

اطلاعات مهم لطفاً درخواست کنید  
این اطلاعات را برای شما ترجمه کنند

November 14, 2022

Dear Resident and/or Business Owner:

**RE: Slow Streets Network - New Barriers & Parking Changes**

Starting mid-November, City of Vancouver crews will be installing new concrete barriers along Slow Streets in your area to replace the existing temporary orange barriers. These barriers will not impact traffic circulation, but four to six parking spaces will be removed near the intersection to ensure safe manoeuvring for all vehicles, including emergency vehicles. Figure 1 shows the renderings of the barriers, and Figure 2 shows the approximate placement of the barriers.

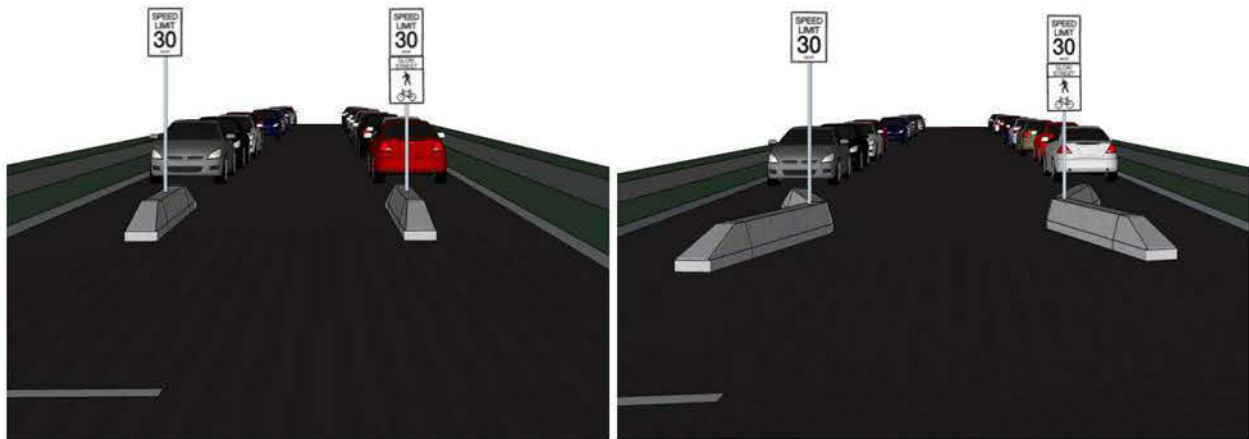


Figure 1. Renderings of concrete Slow Streets barriers on narrower (left) and wider (right) local streets

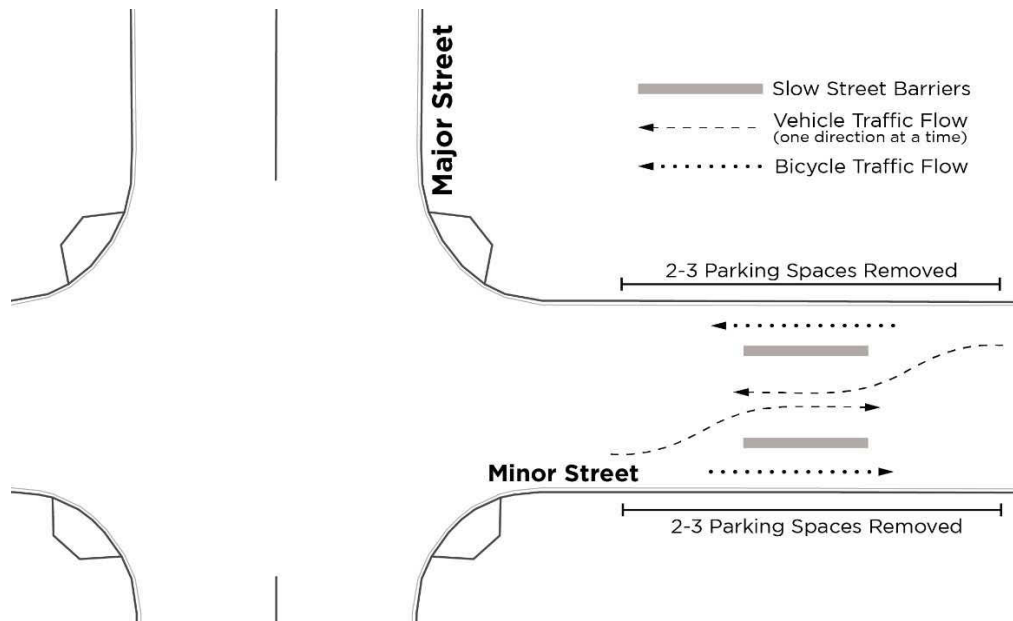


Figure 2. Slow Streets barrier placement

Slow Streets are routes for walking, biking, and rolling that also accommodate emergency services and local vehicle access. Launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Slow Streets made it easier for people to exercise and access businesses in their neighbourhood. The initiative has since helped reshape how we use local streets, providing a safe and comfortable street environment for different users.

Slow Streets were first designated using signage and temporary barriers. Starting this month, we are refreshing the network with concrete barriers to reduce maintenance costs and new 30 km/hr speed limit signs that encourage drivers to slow down when entering local streets.

Additional details about the changes, including a network map, are available on the Slow Streets webpage: [www.vancouver.ca/slow-streets](http://www.vancouver.ca/slow-streets). We will continue to monitor the network and make additional adjustments if they are needed.

If you have any questions or feedback related to Slow Streets, please contact our team by:

- E-mailing [slowstreets@vancouver.ca](mailto:slowstreets@vancouver.ca)
- Connecting via the VanConnect app
- Calling 3-1-1

Sincerely,

Engineering Services  
 City of Vancouver  
 320-507 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Z 0B4  
 604-873-7000